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INSIDE: NEW YEAR BRINGS CHALLENGES. OPPORTUNITIES • CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT APPROVED



Profs. Karol Mathews, left, and Stephanie Nykamp, shown here with canine companion Rawley, are determining whether a natural biological product can help dogs suffering from capillary leak syndrome.

PHOTO BY OLIVIA BROWN

Vets Study Natural Protein for Treating Leaky Blood Vessels

Albumin shows promise as treatment for syndrome

BY KIRSTEN ANDERSON SPARK PROGRAM

APILLARY LEAK SYNDROME, which strikes both animals and humans, is a sometimes-fatal condition that can occur following severe and widespread inflammation. Blood vessels become and allow fluid to accumulate in the surrounding

Now, Ontario Veterinary College researchers are looking into whether a natural biological product may prove beneficial in treating companion animals with capillary leak syn-

Profs, Karol Mathews and Stephanie Nykamp of the Department of Clinical Studies are evaluating the use of albumin — a protein found in the blood of all animals and humans - to treat dogs suffering from the syndrome.

Capillary leak syndrome occurs severe inflammation is when

brought on by trauma or illness. In response, damaged cells release molecules called cytokines, which act as internal signals to recruit the biological products needed to repair the damaged cells.

But cytokines can also trigger the cells lining the capillaries to contract. This can cause fluid from the blood to leak into surrounding tissues, resúlting in swelling. And although cytokines are a necessary response to injury or illness, their effects can be detrimental - and even life-threatening - if they occur throughout the body.

"For example, if these leaks occur in critical areas such as the lungs, the animal may have difficulty breathing," says Mathews.

That's where albumin comes in. Albumin has many important roles in the blood, including maintaining pressure in the blood vessels so that fluid blood components don't leak

Continued on page 10

OVC Names New Dean

Clinical scientist will become first woman to head a veterinary school in Canada

BY LORI BONA HUNT

FTER AN EXTENSIVE search, Elizabeth Arnold Stone of North Carolina State University has been appointed dean of OVC for a five-year term that begins June 1. She will become the first woman to head a veterinary school in Canada.

"Dr. Stone is a highly regarded teacher, researcher and administrator, and I am extremely pleased that she is joining the University of Guelph as our 10th dean of OVC," says Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), who chaired the search committee.

"She is known for being a passionate advocate for both students and faculty and for her contributions to veterinary medicine. This experience, coupled with her recognized accomplishments, makes her a terrific fit for OVC and U of G. I know the University community will join me in welcoming her to campus."

Stone is currently a professor and head of the Department of Clinical Sciences at North Carolina. She has also been an assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania and a visiting research assistant professor at the Sol Sherry Thrombosis Research Center at Temple University Medical School.

She received her veterinary degree from the University of California, Davis, and completed an internship, surgical residency and MS in physiology at the University of Georgia in 1980. She earned a master



Elizabeth Arnold Stone

of public policy at the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University in 1993.

"I am honoured and enthused about becoming the dean of the Ontario Veterinary College," says Stone, "Located within a first-class university, OVC has achieved international recognition for its innovative approaches to student-centred learning, for exceptional care of animals, and for new discoveries to improve the health of animals and people. OVC is poised to be a global leader in exploring the benefits and challenges associated with the ever-increasing interactions among animals, humans and the environment. As the new dean, I look forward to making new friends and building partnerships within the college and the University and throughout the province."

At North Carolina, Stone established a formal mentoring program and career workshops for faculty. She also expanded learning opportunities for veterinary students and for post-doctoral trainees, including establishing partnerships with a private specialty hospital and an emergency clinic, the county animal shelter and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences.

A veterinary urologist, Stone has published more than 100 papers. reviews and book chapters, and is co-author of a textbook. Currently, ber research focuses on the neurophysiology of lower urinary tract syndromes

She co-founded the Society for Veterinary Medicine and Literature, which supports the discussion of literature and arts in the field. She has also served as president of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Stone received the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award from the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University and the Alumni Achievement Award from the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, She was also the staff liaison for the Advisory Panel for Veterinary Medicine of the Pew Health Professions Commission.

Mancuso lauds the members of the search committee for their hard work and commitment to their task. She also thanks pathobiology professor Carlton Gyles for his contributions as interim dean and for agreeing to continue in this capacity until Stone arrives in June.

U of G Vigil to Mourn **Lives Lost in Tsunami**

Blue ribbon campaign will raise funds for Red Cross disaster relief

OF G WILL HOLD A VIGIL Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. in War Memorial Hall to mourn those who lost their lives in South and Southeast Asia and East Africa as a result of the Dec. 26 tsunami. The evening will include reflections, music and readings. Everyone is welcome to attend.

"Our community joins with the millions of people around the world mourning the tremendous loss of human life," says president Alastair Summerlee. "Our thoughts are with the families whose loved ones are still missing, with those who have

lost their homes, and with the people bringing aid and support."

U of G will also pay tribute to those who died in the tsunami by observing a minute of silence Ian. 12 at noon. The University community is invited to share this observance with memhers of central administration and student government in Room 103 of the University Centre. Introductory remarks will begin promptly at 11:45 a.m.

In the aftermath of the disaster, members of the University have been joining forces to provide support for those here on campus who have been directly or indirectly affected by the tsunami, as well as for the hundreds of thousands of people in the devastated areas.

The University is doing what it can to give assistance by providing counselling services, facilitating financial donations and, in the future, offering the expertise of our faculty, staff and students," Summerlee says.

For personal counselling, members of the community can turn to Student Counselling Services, the Continued on page 8





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New Code of Conduct for Suppliers Approved

URING ITS FINAL MEETING OF 2004, B of G approved a new code of conduct for U of G suppliers, a revised animal-care policy and a new master plan for the Arboretum. Governors were also briefed on the final report from the Presidential Task Force on Accessibility to University Education.

President Alastair Summerlee presented the University's code of ethical conduct for suppliers and subcontractors (see story on page 4). It's significantly different from the one adopted in 1999. The changes reflect a shared desire to increase U of G's commitment to applying standards of ethical conduct in its purchasing practices, Summerlee said. The revisions were identi-

fied by a special cross-University committee during a three-year consultation process.

B of G also approved changes to the University's animal-care policy and procedures. First adopted in 1973, the policy recently underwent a comprehensive review that included broad consultation. The policy was revised to bring it into accord with changes developed by the Canadian Council on Animal Care, the federal agency responsible for assessing institutions that use animals in research.

The changes were circulated to all faculty and approved by the Joint Faculty Policy Committee, the Research Board and Senate before going to B of G.

The new Arboretum master plan was brought forward by governor Robin-Lee Norris, who chaired the master plan steering committee. It has been in development over the past year and has involved an extensive consultative process.

Landscape architecture professor Jim Taylor, who co-ordinated the steering committee, outlined the plan for B of G. It includes a reorganized road system, a new entrance via College Avenue and assessing the future needs for collections, gardens and natural areas management. Efforts will now focus on an accompanying operational plan that will explore how to implement goals.

Provost and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso presented the final report from the Presidential Task Force on Accessibility to University Education, which she chaired. It's the culmination of more than a year of research. analysis and consultations. Task force members Prof. Sally Humphries, Josh Alcock and David Hornsby took part in the presentation.

The report contains recommendations for U of G to consider as part of a strategic plan to enhance accessibility to the University, as well as suggested changes at the provincial and federal levels. These include establishing a deferred tuition plan, revising student financial assistance programs, and reaching out to aboriginal and minority populations.

Summerlee said he is seeking comments and advice from the University community and general public with respect to moving forward with the task force's recom-

In other business, B of G approved naming a room on the third floor of the McLaughlin Library the Florence Partridge Room in memory of the University's former chief librarian, who died last February. She was a longtime U of G volunteer and benefactor, supporting the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, the science complex and the Library Learning Commons.

B of G also received an update on the science complex construction and reviewed semester financial statements.

senate

University Will Continue to Face Budget Challenges in Year Ahead

T THE DEC. 14 MEETING OF SENATE, president be released until May 2005. Alastair Summerlee said he expects the upcoming budget cycle to be the most difficult yet. U of G will continue to face increasing costs, tuition fees will remain frozen, and the increase in the quality assurance fund associated with the double cohort has not materialized. Although the Rae panel will be submitting its report early this year, the provincial budget will not

The president noted that the Council of Ontario Universities had met with former premier Bob Rae on more than one occasion, and there is optimism about the support his panel is receiving for investing in higher education. The challenge will be whether or not the government can respond in time to the need for additional resources, Summerlee said.

Senate received and discussed two documents in an informal session: the proposed revised code of conduct for vendors and the final report of the Task Force on Accessibility to University Education. Both discussions were chaired by Prof. David Murray. (See page 4 for a story on the code of conduct.)

The task force's final report contains 53 recommendations that address financial and non-financial barriers to university education.

The president noted that, in general, the report has received strong support from student and faculty groups. He confirmed that recommendations on issues specific to U of G would be forwarded to the appropriate units or governing bodies within the institution. Recommendations on system-wide changes, such as significant change to the student financial aid schemes. would be forwarded to the Rae panel, the government and external organizations, he said.

Members of Senate applauded the recommendations on non-financial accessibility issues intended to improve access to university education for part-time students and those with disabilities.

AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date	Deadline	Publication Date	Deadline
Jan. 26	Jan. 18	March 23	March 15
Feb. 9	Feb. 1	April 6	March 30
Feb. 23	Feb. 15	April 20	April 13
March 9	March 1	May 4	April 27

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OVC NAMES ASSISTANT DEAN

Prof. Robert Jacobs, Pathobiology, has been appointed assistant dean, research and graduate affairs, at the Ontario Veterinary College, effective Jan. 1. Jacobs earned his DVM and PhD degrees at Guelph and was a faculty member at the School of Veterinary Medicine at Ohio State University from 1980 until 1985, when he joined OVC.

GUELPH ORGANIC CONFERENCE FEATURES FREE TASTING FAIR

The 24th annual Guelph Organic Conference runs Jan. 20 to 23 in the University Centre, Keynote speaker is John Ikerd, a retired agricultural economist from the University of Missouri. A highlight of the conference is the free Organic Expo Canada Tasting Fair, which runs Jan. 22 and 23 in the UC and features about 125 exhibitors displaying organic products and more than 20 yendors offering samples of their organic fare. In addition to a range of workshops and seminars, the conference will include a public forum called "The Vent Event - Have Your Say on Organic Issues" Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. Cost is \$10. For complete details, visit www.guelphorganicconf.ca.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES FOCUS OF ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

U of G environmental science undergraduate students will host their 11th annual Environmental Science Symposium Jan. 22, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Rozanski Hall. This year's theme is "Alternative Energy Technologies and Energy Conservation." Keynote speaker is Jay Ingram, co-host and producer of Discovery Channel's award-winning show Daily Planet. The day will feature a wide range of speakers, a workshop and displays. Registration is \$10 general, \$5 for students. To register online, visit www. uoguelph.ca/~envsymp.

U OF G FORMS PARTNERSHIP WITH BRAZILIAN UNIVERSITY

U of G and the Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco in Recife, Brazil, have signed a memorandum of understanding to create interdisciplinary research exchange opportunities and develop innovative approaches that address agricultural and resource management challenges in northeastern Brazil. For more information, contact Leslie Irons at Ext. 58923 or intres@uoguelph.ca.

Barlow to Speak as Part of Citizenship Awareness Month

Other events include leadership workshops, student conference, panel discussion

NE OF CANADA'S most well-known social activists, Maude Barlow, will speak in War Memorial Hall Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m. as part of Citizenship Awareness Month. Admission is free for students and \$7 for faculty, staff and community members.

As the national chair of the Council of Canadians, Canada's largest citizens' advocacy organization, Barlow aims to safeguard social programs, promote economic justice, renew democracy, assert Canadian sovereignty, advance alternatives to corporate-style free trade and preserve the environment. She is a director with the International Forum on Globalization and co-founder of the Blue Planet Project, an international effort to

protect the world's fresh water from the growing threats of trade and privatization.

In the 1980s, Barlow served as senior adviser on women's issues to then prime minister Pierre Trudeau. She also worked as a volunteer on a landmark human rights challenge of the Kingston Prison for Women, established the Ottawa Task Force on Wife Assault and led a national coalition against violent pornography on television.

Barlow is the author of 13 books, including Parcel of Rogues: How Free Trade is Failing Canada, Class Warfare: The Assault on Canada's Schools and Blue Gold: The Battle to Stop Corporate Theft of the World's Water.

The University will also mark Citizenship Awareness Month with workshops on leadership Jan. 18, 19 and 20 at 11:30 a.m. in Rooms 441 and 332 of the University Centre, a leadership conference for first-year students Jan. 22 and a panel discussion on women in leadership Jan. 26 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 441 of the University Centre.

On Jan. 28, "One World," a multicultural celebration featuring members of several of U of G's cultural clubs, will be held in War Memorial Hall. Cost of admission is a donation for tsunami victims.

Citizenship Awareness Month will conclude Feb. I with a free breakfast at 8 a.m. in the Bullring.

For more information, visit the website www.studentlife.uoguelph. ca/citizenleader/explore/citizenship month.htm.

HOLUB TO BE HONOURED

Prof. Bruce Holub, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, will receive the 2005 Kaplan Award from the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies at its annual conference in June, to be held at Guelph. The award recognizes a member of the federation who has contributed significantly to raising public awareness of science.

people

PROF IS VISITING SENIOR RESEARCH SCHOLAR

University professor emeritus O.P. Dwivedi, Department of Political Science, has been invited by the University of South Florida, Tampa, to be its first visiting senior research scholar from January to June 2005. His main duty is to mentor and assist junior faculty and senior doctoral students in environmental policy, institutions and ethics. He will also give a series of lectures to undergraduate and graduate students.

TREVORS JOINS THINK TANK

Prof. Jack Trevors, Environmental Biology, has been invited to become an official member of the newly formed Biology, Medicine and Society Think Tank, UMR CNRS/IRD Montpellier, France. Trevors says the think tank will deal with revitalizing scientific thinking and "understanding what is only speculative and misleading by scientists and what is established, credible and useful to humanity." For more information, contact him at jtrevors@uoguelph.ca.

RETIRED DEAN HONOURED

Retired College of Arts dean Murdo MacKinnon is one of 24 Ontarians to receive a 2004 Senior Achievement Award from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. The award recognizes and honours outstanding seniors who, after age 65, have made significant contributions to their communities. He was recommended for the award by his former student Liz Sandals, Guelph-Wellington MPP.

GRYPHON HEAD THERAPIST IN AUSTRIA WITH ALL-STAR TEAM

Guntis Obrascovs, head therapist for the Gryphons, was named to the staff and training camp roster for the Ontario University Athletics men's hockey all-star team that is representing Canada at the 2005 Winter Universide in Innsbruck, Austria, Jan. 12 to 22.

University Hosts Women in Leadership Panels

National speaker series features female role models sharing their career experiences

EMALE LEADERS in the fields of agriculture and veterinary science will be taking part in a national speaker series through the Women in Leadership Foundation Jan. 25 and 27 in Room 1714 of OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre.

The series is being held at 22 universities across Ontario, allowing female role models from various fields to share their career experiences and their secrets for success with young women.

On Jan. 25, Doreen Houston, director of clinical research studies for Medi-Cal; Deb Stark, assistant deputy minister of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF); and Cheryl Yuill, a private veterinary practitioner, will take part in an hour-long panel discussion and question-and-answer session at 12:30 p.m. A networking reception will follow in the OVC cafeteria.

Houston, an OVC graduate who earned her DVM, graduate diploma and D.V.Sc. at U of G in the 1980s, is a professor at the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and has been with Medi-Cal, a Canadian company that develops therapeutic and preventive diets for cats and dogs, since 1996.

Stark, a 1982 DVM graduate of OVC, completed an MBA from Wilfrid Laurier University and held various positions at OMAF before being promoted to her current role in 2003. After earning her DVM and an M.Sc. in small-animal medicine from OVC, Yuill opened the Blue Cross Animal Hospital in Kitchener in 1990.

On Jan. 27, Crystal Mackay, executive director of the Ontario Farm Animal Council (OFAC); Brenda Watson, executive director of the Canadian Partnership for Consumer Food Safety Education; and Deb Whale, vice-president and co-owner of Clovermead Farms, will take part in an agri-food women in leadership panel at 5:30 p.m. A networking reception will follow.

Before being appointed OFAC executive director, Mackay, a 1993

graduate of OAC, worked as the OFAC program co-ordinator and as a communications specialist with Ontario Pork, where she spear-headed the Farm to Fork promotion program. Watson, a 1987 B.A.Sc. graduate of Guelph, has more than 10 years' experience working in adult education and organizational development. She is a past president of the Ontario Institute of Agrologists and the Mac-FACS Alumni Association. Whale is chair of the Poultry Industry Council and a board member with Farm Credit Canada. She has also served on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's minister's advisory committee.

Women in Leadership is a non-profit organization committed to the advancement of women's leadership. Its signature program is the lecture series, which is presented by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada and Scotjabank.

There is no cost to attend these events, but participants must register at www.womeninleadership.ca.

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES ARCHIBALD

University professor emeritus James Archibald died Dec. 11 at the age of 85. Born in Scotland, he served with the Canadian Army Medical Corps during the Second World War, then enrolled at OVC, graduating in 1949. He joined the college's faculty the following year and later studied at the University of Glasgow and the University of Glasgow and the University of Glessen, where he earned his Dr. med. vet. He served as chair of the Department of Clinical Studies from 1963 to 1979, followed by a term as director of Animal-Care Services. He retired in 1985. Prof.

Archibald was a pioneer in the development of veterinary surgery that influenced both animal and human surgical techniques. He was a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, was named to the Order of Ontario in 1990 and was the OVC Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus in 2001. He is survived by three sons, Tom, David and John; five grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

ALLISON MADDISON

Allison Maddison, a master's student in the School of Rural Planning

and Development, died Dec. 31 at age 27. She graduated from Guelph with a BA in international development in 2001, had travelled the world and had climbed to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro. She is survived by her partner, Adam MacDonald; her parents, Donald and Afleen, of Windsor; her sister, Andria; and her brother, Stephen.

MERVIN TOLTON

Retiree Merv Tolton, former manager of Purchasing Services, died Dec. 17 at the age of 71. He was employed at the University from 1967 to 1993. He is survived by his wife, Muriel; two children, Bob and Debbie; and three grandchildren. A tree will be planted in his memory Sept. 25 at 2:30 p.m. in the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest at the Arboretum.

STANLEY YOUNG

Retired crop science professor Stan Young, U of G's former coordinator of agricultural extension, died suddenly Dec. 30 at the age of 77. A 1949 B.Sc.(Agr.) graduate of OAC, he earned his master's and PhD degrees from Cornell Univer-

sity and returned to Guelph in 1959 to teach in the Department of Crop Science and co-ordinate its exten sion program. In 1969, his job expanded to include extension for the entire college, work he continued until retiring in 1992. He also served for five years as director of the associate diploma program in agriculture. Prof. Young is survived by his wife, Audrey; four children, Barbara, Doug, Bruce and Laura; and nine grandchildren. A tree will be planted in his memory Sept. 25 in the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest at the Arboretum.

from the president

New Year Brings Both Challenges, Opportunities

Editor's note: With this issue of At Guelph, we-launch a monthly column by president Alastair Summeriee. The president welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

HEN THE IDEA for this column was first conceived, I envisioned what my first missive might say. It would include an upbeat New Year's greeting, a challenge to seize fresh opportunities and a serious discussion about the difficulties that most certainly lie ahead.

I am still extending my sincerest wishes for a safe, healthy and productive new year. But the catastrophic final week of 2004 requires me to make a few editorial changes. I am sure the unbearable grief from the earthquake and tsunami that occurred on the other side of the world remains foremost in all our minds. The response from people across the globe, including the U of G community, has been the only glimmer of hope.

The loss of human life and spectacle of suffering are immense. The University's challenges with budget constraints and aging infrastructure are trivial against this backdrop of stark peril and desperate tragedy.

Yet one of the poignant realities of life is that, even in the face of such monumental devastation, we must press on with the concerns and issues of local importance, while never forgetting the anguish of others across the globe.

With this in mind, let me begin by saying that the past year at the University has been peppered with contrasts. There were many things to celebrate, including the opening of Phase 1 of the science complex, the awarding of the Order of Canada to two of our senior faculty, the presentation of Canada's premier prize for literary excellence to one professor and a Genie Award nomination for another.

Our students also claimed a national record for the most amount of food collected in one night for the food bank, the University commu-



nity surpassed its goal and raised more than \$340,000 for the United Way, we revised our code of conduct encouraging ethical behaviour of U of G suppliers, and we released a groundbreaking report on accessibility to university education.

And, as you all know, the University was once again heralded in national surveys for its research, campus atmosphere, overall quality, public accountability and, perhaps most important, its reputation based on the opinion of its graduates.

All these accolades are the result of the considerable hard work and commitment of staff, faculty, students, alumni and friends of this incitivities.

But 2004 was also a year of tremendous challenges. We confronted and continue to deal with the effects of severe government funding shortfalls. They complicated our careful budget planning process and made it difficult to address pressing matters such as quality assurance and student financial assistance.

We had to make some tough decisions, and virtually no activities on campus were unaffected. We have endured classrooms, roofs, walkways and entire buildings being in need of significant renovation and said goodbye to numerous colleagues through an early retirement and resignation package.

I know the downsizing and financial constraints are difficult for some to fathom, especially with the widespread construction and disruption, the impending start of the new arts and social sciences faculty facility,

and the extensive repairs to steam lines and infrastructure across campus. But these projects are important for the future as we seek to deal with the most critical of the deferred maintenance issues and make improvements needed to maintain and enhance quality.

Despite the challenges we have faced, I believe most of the University community is determined to embrace opportunities to innovate and to explore new avenues. That belief is based, in part, on the favourable responses I have received on two recent initiatives. Many have applauded the proposed strategic realignment of our academic leadership and organization, which will include considering the creation of a new college for management and business-related programs and further enhancing the University's international profile.

Our new code of ethical conduct for suppliers was also positively received. It is my belief that, by taking a leading role with this new policy, the University can encourage change in other institutions and, over time, this change will have a positive effect on working conditions around the

I am also heartened by the Rae review of post-secondary education and have spent a considerable amount of time this year working with the provincial government and on the University's submission to the Rae panel.

Although I am optimistic about this review and its implications, it is not clear whether there will be any changes effected in time to avoid a very difficult fiscal year for Guelph and the entire university system. I think we are all painfully aware of the consequences of another year of government funding shortfalls.

It is my hope, however, that as we move forward and assess where we stand as a university, we do so with a new appreciation for the gift of human life, and that our deepest humanitarian impulses will always enable us to place our problems in proper perspective.

Code of Ethical Conduct Sets New Standards for U of G Suppliers

President hopes Guelph's policy will encourage other Canadian universities to create a climate for change

BY LORI BONA HUNT

NEW CODE of ethical conduct for suppliers was approved by Board of Governors during its last meeting of 2004. It's intended to raise awareness among purchasers within the University community and suppliers

The new code builds on a previous administrative policy and now includes all apparel and merchandise with U of G logos or trademarks, as well as products monitored by a third-party agency that verifies policy compliance.

The code can be viewed online at http://www.uoguelph.ca/governors/ policies.html.

The new policy includes provisions about supplier practices surrounding fair wages and benefits, child labour, working hours, work-place health and safety standards, discrimination and harassment. It also covers steps the University may take to verify that suppliers and subcontractors are in compliance.

The code includes University purchases, as well as those of other university groups such as elected student governments. Books, research materials and research equipment purchases are excluded.

President Alastair Summerlee is currently writing to various campus units and organizations to establish a new advisory committee that will provide support and advice on implementing the policy. It will include representatives from student and employee groups. A complete list of the organizations that will make up the committee is listed in the code of conduct's procedures and is also available online.

The new code reflects a shared desire to increase the University's commitment to applying standards of ethical conduct to its purchasing practices, says Summerlee.

"The first priority for the advisory committee will be to provide information on the code and its procedures, and to develop an education and awareness program for

university purchasers. Guelph has already obtained membership in a third-party monitoring agency. We hope our policy and its implementation encourage other universities to create a climate for change."

U of G was the first Canadian university to have a code of conduct when it adopted its first policy in 1999. Since then, several Canadian universities have adopted similar measures.

The new code includes numerous revisions and incorporates improvements identified during a three-year University-wide consultation process. Because the new policy covers items not included previously and was expanded to apply University-wide, it will take some time to fully apply it to all purchasing practices.

"This code is an expression of Guelph's values and a projection of those values beyond the University's borders," says Patrick Case, director of the Human Rights and Equity Office, who served on the committee that revised the policy. Students Against Sweatshops, a

Students Against Sweatshops, a working group of the Ontario Public Interest Research Group, has endorsed the new code. At the B of G meeting, Ryan White, a student representative on the board and member of Students Against Sweatshops, said that although the group would like to see even more forceful language and prohibitions, the policy was "a significant positive step."

The code, which was the topic of a special meeting of Senate in December, was also supported by various employee groups on campus.

Summerlee says there was considerable internal debate within the community about the new code. He told B of G that, like many issues that relate to moral and ethical behaviour, the new policy represents a compromise.

"But it sets a course for the institution, accompanied by a set of procedures that can, over time, migrate to help change international practices to support human rights."

Search Under Way for AVPA

Committee will begin considering candidates in late January

A SEARCH IS UNDER WAY to fill the position of associate vice-president (academic), with duties to begin July 1, 200S.

Search committee chair Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), says the committee will begin considering candidates in late January and expects to present a short list to the campus community in late March.

Other members of the committee are Prof. Dean Betts, Biomedical Sciences; Prof. Terry Crowley, History; Prof. Moira Ferguson, Zoology; Prof. Alun Joseph, dean of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences; undergraduate student Amy-Lee Kouwenberg; and Brian Pettigrew, director of strategic enrolment management and registrar.

Reporting to and working with the provost, the AVPA is responsible for the content, administration and seamless delivery of all undergraduate programs — including those at the regional campuses and the University of Guelph-Humber — the program review process as required by the provincial government, the launching of new initiatives and the internationalization of the curricu-

lum. The AVPA also chairs the Council on Undergraduate Academic Advising and the Enrolment Co-ordinating Committee. A detailed position profile can be viewed on the web at www.uoguelph.ca/facultyjobs.

Anyone wishing to apply should forward a curriculum vitae, letter of introduction and the names of five references as soon as possible to the University's executive search consultants: Laverne Smith & Associates Inc., 1 Yonge St., Suite 1801, Toronto, ON MSE IW7, resumes@lavernesmith.com.

Recycling Tip of the Month

paper towels, tissues, toilet paper and napkins should be placed in the garbage, not the recycling bin. This sort of paper poses a risk to hand sorters at the recycling plant because they have no way of knowing what was wiped with the tissue or towel. Even if clean, the paper fibres tend to be very short, giving them low economic value in the recycling market.



While You Were Sleeping...

BY RACHELLE COOPER

HEN MOST STUDENTS, faculty and staff members begin brushing the snow and scraping the ice off their windshields the morning after a winter storm, Andy Grossauer of Grounds has already been busy shovelling snow on campus for several hours.

"If there's been a heavy snowfall, when most people are asleep in their beds, I'll get a call at 2:30 a.m. and am out shovelling by 3 a.m. in the worst weather," he says.

Grossauer is one of five gardeners and two groundskeepers responsible for shovelling all the areas of campus that aren't accessible by snow-removal machines. They each have their own route of stairs, loading docks, wheelchair ramps and sidewalks to clear. The seven Grounds staff are assisted by four to six part-time student shovellers.

Grossauer's route is about 24,000 square feet. It covers the area west of Gordon Street and south of the Animal Science and Nutrition Building, and the area south of the Axelrod Building to Stone Road, as well as the paths, sidewalks and stairs around Rozanski Hall, Day Hall, the Bullring, Zavitz Hall, the Hutt Building, the MacNaughton Building and the new science complex.

"That's equivalent to 24 driveways that are 20 feet wide and 50 feet long," he says. It takes him 35 minutes just to walk his whole route to



Frigid temperatures and mounds of snow don't faze Andy Grossauer, who grew up in the Sudbury area. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

make sure it has remained clear.

Spending 90 per cent of his working time outside is a joy for Grossauer. He grew up near Sudbury

and says the snow and cold have always been a big part of his life.

"I love the snow, so it doesn't bother me. It's great exercise, and I love being outside. Even if we get two feet of snow, I don't mind at all."

What Grossauer does find aggravating is when it continues to snow heavily and he gets calls to go back and shovel an area a second or third time in one day when he still hasn't got through his entire route.

"When we get more than three or four inches of snow, even if I get called in at 3 a.m., sometimes 1 still can't get it all done."

He remembers a winter of shovelling new snow for 23 straight days in the early 1990s, and the worst week he can recall in his 15 years of clearing snow on campus began Jan. 2, 1999, with a beavy snowfall.

"It was -45 C with the wind chill on Wednesday, then more snow fell, and by the end of the week, there was so much snow that the University had to call in contractors to haul it out of the lots because there was nowhere to put it all."

Because Grossauer is over six feet tall, he prefers a basic plastic snow pusher shovel over fancier ergonomically correct models because it has a longer handle. Although he says snow pusher shovels work well, they don't last that long, so he always has a spare on hand in his tool shed in Graham Hall. He goes through five or six a winter.

When dealing with tough ice as well as snow, Grossauer will clear as much as he can with his shovel, then use an ice melter before going back over it with the shovel. That's the

technique he had to use when the University closed in April 2003 because of an ice storm.

Even on the coldest days, Grossauer doesn't wear long underwear or a hat. Insulated coveralls over a T-shirt and pants, a headband that covers his ears, insulated work boots and gloves are his standard winter uniform.

"I'm working so hard that usually after an hour, my shirt is soaked from sweating," he says.

On extremely cold days, he and his colleagues take breaks when necessary to avoid getting frostbite.

Grossauer began working on campus as a pesticide operator and transferred to his current position after five years. He has a bachelor of science degree from U of G and a diploma in horticulture.

When there's no snow to shovel, Grossauer maintains the conservatory gardens, the flower display at the corner of Stone Road and Gordon Street and other outdoor plants and landscaping in his area. He also maintains indoor tropical plants on campus year-round. During a heavy rainfall, he makes sure leaves and other debris haven't plugged any of the storm drains on his route.

As long as he stays healthy, Grossauer says he may want to keep shovelling after he's able to retire.

"I'm 40, and because of my job, I've been able to keep fit without having to go to the Y."

Engineering Student Monitors Mercury in Arctic

Groundbreaking study is expected to yield clues about where mercury comes from and what happens to it in the Far North

BY ANDREW VOWLES

NLY 750 KILOMETRES from the North Pole, with the mercury in the thermometer stuck at about -50 C, a U of G master's student is beginning a study this month of how environmental mercury moves between the snow pack and the air in Canada's High Arctic

Frank Cobbett's groundbreaking study is expected to yield information about the origins and behaviour of mercury, which is becoming a growing health hazard for people living in northern regions.

In early January, the environmental engineering student boarded a military transport plane bound via Greenland to Alert in Nunavut. He'll spend six months collecting data at an Environment Canada research station on a Cold War-era military base on the northern tip of Ellesmere Island, the world's most northerly inhabited settlement.

There he'll monitor mercury concentrations and flux to track the movement of different forms of the element, including gaseous mercury, between the snow pack and the atmosphere.

Although Environment Canada routinely monitors mercury levels around the country, the agency normally measures only concentrations rather than how much mercury escapes from the ground or is deposited from the air.

"Results from six months in such a cold climate haven't been published," says Prof. Bill Van Heyst, Engineering.

Learning more about what happens to mercury under different conditions might provide clues to where it comes from and what happens to it in the Arctic.

Although earth-bound mercury may be released naturally through, say, volcanic eruptions, much of the mercury deposited in the Arctic is believed to originate farther south from such industrial processes as power generation, smelters and waste incineration.

"Practices in industrialized countries are harming sensitive ecosystems," says Van Heyst.

He hopes his student's work will help underline the connection between toxic pollutants in remote areas and industrial practices in built-up areas, perhaps leading to new environmental policy or pollution regulations.

"This work will give us a better understanding of the physical and chemical properties of mercury and its behaviour in a remote ecosystem," he says. "Ideally, we want to stop mercury from getting up there."

Trace amounts of the element have been detected in breast milk of Inuit women. The substance is believed to bioaccumulate or become more concentrated through the food chain, eventually reaching humans through a diet heavy in seal meat and fich.

Mercury is photosensitive, meaning that its movement may be triggered by varying amounts of light. Cobbett says he expects more mercury will be released from the snow pack with lengthening daylight, an idea he'll test by tracking the flux of different forms of mercury, beginning in the January polar night and ending under the round-the-clock sunshine of lune.

He will assemble a weather station and a mercury analysis station, then monitor the equipment daily. During January, he'll be working in 24-hour darkness, in temperatures that can reach -70 C with wind chill. (He'll also complete a co-op work term for Environment Canada, helping to maintain equipment at the base, which is home to about 150 people.)

Cobbett earned an undergraduate degree in environmental engineering from Guelph in 2004. He traces his interest in air pollution issues to an air quality course he took with his supervisor. He plans to defend his thesis later this year.

Van Heyst studies trace toxic compounds. Before coming to Guelph two years ago, he worked for an environmental consulting firm in Mississauga. Among his assignments there, he conducted pesticide modelling for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He will join his student in Alert later this spring.

They plan to compare their Arctic results with last fall's study of mercury flux from biosolids spread on a farmer's field in Maryhill, near Guelph. Working there with Environment Canada, they found that more mercury escapes from soils immediately after rainfall and after tilling. Van Heyst also hopes to study mercury flux in tropical regions.

He purchased the analytical equipment for the study with funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Ontario Investment Trust. Cobbett also receives funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

Parking Lot Closes for Construction

PARKING LOT P52 between Day Hall and Rozanski Hall permanently closed as of Jan. 1 to enable the construction of a new 35,000-square-foot addition on the southeast side of the MacKinnon Building.

Fencing will be placed around the

construction site by mid-January to safely redirect pedestrian traffic flow. As construction progresses over the next 12 months, Trent Lane will need to close temporarily at times.

Physical Resources is asking for campus co-operation and understanding during the construction ef-

For details of the planned addition, visit www.pr.uoguelph.ca/pr/projectmackinnonext.htm.

For questions, contact senior construction co-ordinator Paul Gowling at Ext. 52009.

What's the Big Idea?

"I believe that, like the worthless unexamined life, the unexamined idea is not worth having"

Editor's note: David Peck is a master's student in the Department of Philosophy and is president of the Philosophy Graduate Students Association.

HY DID I CHOOSE to study philosophy? Why, after 18 years of working in the "real" world, would I choose to leave the comfort of my complacent and often predictable lifestyle? A way of life that consisted of 90 minutes to two hours a day caught in traffic, 45 to 75 phone calls a day, a rushed Rolaids-inducing business lunch, an overflowing inbox of poorly written e-mails, imaginary corporate fires, and enough inane and idle chitchat to make living on the ninth level of Dante's Hell feel merely like enduring a bad comedian on amateur night at Yuk Yuks. And oh, yes, at least 10 parking tickets a year. All this and a steady paycheque I left behind to pursue a professional career in the academic world. Some called it foolhardy. I called it liberation.

Voltaire said: "We use ideas merely to justify our evil and speech merely to conceal our ideas." It seems like a good thing to say. Techniques of persuasion, rhetoric and beautiful metaphors become the tools of modern-day sophists as they attempt to tweak and twist hearts, minds and imaginations. Political figures, writers, entertainers, ministers, artists, the media and the like offer up ideas about life and how to see the world as if we were all eating at some kind of disinterested all-you-can-eat philosophical buffet of detached thoughts and ideas. Today's main course is rhetoric. In the same way, lifestyle advertising spouts its own mediated ilk and should, at best, be seen as a muddy mixture of conflicting messages, assumed premises and shoddy conclusions. Global village? Indeed.

The other day, I found out the hard way what Sartre meant when he said: "Hell is other people." Someone said to me, in a rather cold and condescending tone, after hearing I was pursuing a post-graduate degree in philosophy: "That and a quarter will get you a phone call." Not having the sharp sense of discernment required to realize that this person had just trampled on my passion for the past 12 years and offended every sensibility I've ever entertained, and as demeaning as the word "that" was, I still sheepishly grinned and responded with: "Yep, that's what a lot of folks have to say.

I left the room with the conversation ringing in my ears and wondered what that phone call might actually be like and who I might find myself talking to on the other end of the line. What if I could make one all-important phone call? What if I had only a quarter to spend? Who would it be? Christ, Plato, Descartes, Pascal, Gandhi? Or maybe Elvis? He might have a lot to say. I hear he was kind of chatty.

Yes, I'm a philosopher and I am proud of it. I spend my time reading, thinking and considering ideas - ideas of other philosophers, theologians and political thinkers. I flavour their ideas with a less sophisticated material of my own deliberation, but I do examine, I do think, I do reflect. I get wound up when things are said that indicate a lack of reflection or consideration for the other. I believe that, like the worthless unexamined life, the unexamined idea is not worth having.

We're all philosophers on some level. We all have ideas about religion and politics. We all have some version of the afterlife or perhaps no version at all. We all speak from a point of view, share a not-so-common perspective and will wax poetic on any number of issues if motivated by enough pain, passion, alcohol or anger. We find ourselves both liberated and free through the vehicle of choice or, as Rousseau proclaimed, we



are bound, determined and chained to our circumstance whenever and wherever we go.

Ideas are important. In some respects, they're a given. Some might say they are as accessible and plentiful as the grains of sand on the gritty seashore of the imagination. That may be true. It may be an experiential fact. Is it true, however, that popular ideas are readily put under the critical and philosophical microscope? Are the ideas of others challenged, criticized and reflected on? Can we say that, as active participants in a democratic society (whatever that means), we are willing and freely able to examine the ideas of others?

"Philosophy cultivates an inquisitive spirit. It encourages the formulation of relevant, important and key questions. It enables one to choose and to choose with informed conviction. And it fosters an analytical and pensive heart."

Last year, I spent four weeks in Southeast Asia, primarily in Cambodia — a country that is beautiful, mysterious and tragic. Over the past four years, I have spent much time reading and thinking about the history of Cambodia and the plight of its people. Often referred to as the "sideshow" of the Vietnam War, this is a country that has been largely forgotten by the international community. Thousands dead from mindless, disinterested, video-game-like bombing, seven to 10 million land mines still lying active and dormant like a raw and lethal tumour. These pernicious little anti-personnel mines almost outnumber the current population of the country. Designed to maim and not kill, they have inflicted a horrific degree of physical and psychological pain on small rural communities throughout the country. Genocide. Thirty years of civil war, a war crimes trial still pending and one in three dead as a result of an idea. An idea about Marxism that went horribly wrong - a hyper-communistic, intellectual, academic idea. Some sideshow.

It is precisely for this reason that I chose to study philosophy. I wanted to be able to stand on the other side of an idea and say with a great deal of historical and philosophical confidence that the idea must be examined and that it may be wrong. I had a deep desire to sharpen my skills as a critical thinker. I was and am still in search of first things. I am honing a keen interest in knowing exactly why it was I thought this was this and that was that. Roland Ioffe, director of The Killing Fields, has said about the human condition: "We're a strange animal, so often destroying what we love for selfish ends and yet tantalized by the sense that there are other choices if only we had the strength to make them. In the politics of 400 years ago, we find the same questions we battle with today." I agree.

Fifty years ago, a man by the name of Saloth Sar and a small group of Cambodian academics, many of them former schoolteachers, went to France on scholarships to study. They found themselves drawn to a radical form of Communism and quickly joined arms in a metaphorical and nationalistic embrace. They were a small group of thinkers with extreme, desperate ideas about their country and the way things ought to be. They attended lectures, wrote papers and smoked French cigarettes.

Twenty-five years after graduation, Pol Pot and the other members of this group were responsible for the deaths of millions of Cambodians. Appalling, severe and reprehensible. They saw it as their duty to punish, indoctrinate, detain and transform their friends and family. Obedience was demanded; questions were ignored and brushed carelessly aside. Hatred and fear were the weapons of this ideological regime. Death and destruction were the results. Thirty-three per cent of the country was wiped out. Disturbing numbers and frightening statistics merely approximate the violence and pain these sovereign tyrants rained down on their country.

As detailed in Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness, we can cry with the lives of those who survived and with the spirits of those who died: "The horror. The horror."

The Khmer Rouge were captured by an idea — a pernicious notion with brutal consequences. They were fascinated with power, infused with racism and bankrupt of any moral restraint. It has been noted that years before the regime was ruling Cambodia with lies, deception and the farmer's hoe, Pol Pot had spent much time secluded in Angkor Wat reading and studying Mein Kampf. Hitler's evil and inhumane doctrine influenced the lives of millions of others years later and miles away. One maniacal madman nurturing the other.

Ideas must be examined. They must be challenged and sometimes they must be subverted. I will continue to examine, think and reflect. I encourage everyone to do the same because I believe a degree in philosophy and a quarter will get you a whole lot more than just a phone call. Philosophy cultivates an inquisitive spirit. It encourages the formulation of relevant, important and key questions. It enables one to choose and to choose with informed conviction. And it fosters an analytical and pensive

I am, however, open to the possibility that I may be wrong. If I am, perhaps you might find it useful to consider the existential implications the next time you drop a 25-cent coin into a pay phone and imagine this is it -- your last conversation.

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The Origins of a Scientist

Gifted PhD student uses small Icelandic fish to study processes of ecology and evolution

By Andrew Vowles

HARLES DARWIN never got to Iceland. Who knows: Had the HMS Beagle taken him northward instead of to the Galapagos Islands, perhaps he would have based his ideas about natural selection not on fickle finch beaks but on striking variations in a group of relatively inconspicuous fish living in the numerous lakes that dot that northern island country.

Were Darwin to visit the "Galapagos of the North" today, he might also find a kindred spirit in Bjarni Kristjansson, a native Icelander and U of G graduate who has returned to Guelph this semester to begin PhD studies in zoology. On the academic front alone, they'd probably find plenty to talk about. But Darwin might also find this affable 33-year-old to be an ideal guide to both Iceland's natural history and the historical haunts in more than one sense — around his hometown Hólar and its university, where Kristjansson works and

For the next few years, he'll be dividing his time between fieldwork based at Hólar University College and studies here at Guelph. In November, Kristjansson paid a preliminary visit to campus to receive U of G's largest doctoral award at a graduate awards presentation. He says landing the Brock Doctoral Fellowship was a key to pursuing his PhD. "I've been trying to start it for three or

Endowed by Bill Brock, a Guelph graduate and longtime friend of the University, and his wife, Anne, the scholarship is worth up to \$120,000 over four years and recognizes graduate students who demonstrate the potential to make significant contributions to teaching and

Described as being "among the brightest and best in modern ecological research" by his supervisor, Prof. David Noakes, Kristjansson plans to further his studies of rapid adaptive change in Icelandic fish. In a sense, he'll pick up

where he left off when he completed his master's degree here in 2001. Referring to his student's academic and extracurricular pursuits before and since, Noakes says: "What he's done is quite

Kristjansson has studied sticklebacks, a family of small fish (related to seahorses) found in northern oceans and lakes and characterized by a row of dorsal spines. They may be small, but they're a curiosity to evolutionary biologists. Not only can they live in fresh or salt water, but they also show an amazing ability to adapt quickly to local conditions in lakes and lagoons much so that researchers can see the fish physically alter to fit their surroundings within only one or two generations.

His earlier studies, which have already yielded four published papers, showed that the fish may take only 13 years to display different forms in varying habitats. That doesn't mean he's seeing entirely new species spring fully formed from the bottom mud. But variances among groups are a first step toward speciation, the evolutionary fork in the road beyond which animals can no longer interbreed successfully.

"There's very rapid evolutionary change going on in these animals over dozens of years," says Noakes. "We can actually see evolution taking place."

Beyond the differences between one species and another, what captivates him and his student is the process itself, on its own merits and for its potential application in the wider world. Understand more about how changes occur in an ecosystem and you can better protect and conserve that ecosystem, not simply one or two species.

"It's important for us to know what's around us," says



Kristjansson. "What animals do we have in the ecosystem? At some point, we need to protect them. The stickleback is basically a tool. It's not that I want to study sticklebacks - I want to

He grew up in the right place to do that. Compared with the millions of years of evolution occurring in a place like the Galapagos Islands, Iceland's lakes and their inhabitants developed only after the last major glaciation. That makes them a kind of natural lab for studying recent and current adaptive

Skuli Skulason, rector of Hólar University College and an M.Sc. and PhD graduate of Guelph's zoology program, says Kristjansson has drawn attention to the diversity of these Icelandic fish and raised larger questions about adaptation in what Skulason calls "this theatre of evolution."

The concept of biodiversity is at the heart of the discussion of nature and society," he says. "It's what nature is all about."

Skulason was part of an Icelandic delegation that visited Guelph in the fall to inaugurate a new Iceland-Guelph Institute. The institute will further educational and research collaborations between the two countries that he and Noakes began about 20 years ago. Prof. Steven Cronshaw, Psychology, who is co-ordinator of the Iceland-Guelph exchange program, will be the institute's interim director.

Cronshaw says Kristjansson's studies are a perfect example of the partnership fostered between U of G and four Icelandic universities, including Hólar. "It brings the research communities in Canada and Iceland closer together.

As is the case with many scientists, Kristjansson's studies have their roots in a childhood spent exploring the outdoors. For him, that included fishing creatures out of nearby lakes. Rather than continue down a well-travelled path - "in Iceland, every other biologist is a bird biologist," he says - he decided to stick with fish, eventually studying biology at the University of Iceland before coming to Guelph.

Back on dry land — and telescoping the time frame down to a more human dimension - he's also interested in human history. For several years, he's led ghost tours around Hólar, even dressing the part to evoke early politics, religion and folklore, including early settlement and gruesome murder legends. "I like to tell stories," he says

His haunted tour is included in promotional information for Hólar, whose cathedral built in 1763 attests to the town's standing as a Catholic bishop's seat between 1106 and 1802.

Another outlet for sharing stories and information is the classroom, of course. As a researcher at Hólar, Kristjansson has taught aquaculture and rural tourism courses and has been involved in curriculum development. He runs a field course that sees Guelph and other Ontario students visit Iceland every two years. Since 1999, he has also been director of Hólar's freshwater aquarium, which receives up to 6,000 visitors each year.

Fielding questions from visitors and students and sharing stories with his ghost tour crowds are not far removed from the impulse that drives his graduate studies. Yes, he gets to work outdoors and catch fish, but more than that, he says, "Part of the fun is asking questions and getting answers."

It was in that spirit - and not without a healthy dose of luck - that he hauled a brand-new creature out of the ater while chasing down sticklebacks for his master's degree. As he explains in yet another recent research paper, he discovered the first known freshwater amphi-

pods in Iceland. These particular crustaceans, resembling a flattened crab, are uniquely adapted to living in complete darkness in caves.

Noakes notes that Kristjansson's find went beyond uncovering a new species of critter.

"Not only are they a new species, but they are also a new genus and an entirely new family of amphipods. The description of a new family in a group so well-known and intensively studied as freshwater amphipods is a lifetime achievement.

Recalling the skeptical reception that met his original find, Kristjansson says things changed after he netted a second speci-

"Finding the amphipods has changed the way people think about how life came to Iceland," he says, explaining that evidence suggests these creatures survived glaciation.

Asked to explain his own apparent good fortune in the field, he shrugs. "So many things in life are luck. Skuli says you have to have an open mind. It's a combination of luck and seeing what's there.

Skulason says Kristjansson embodies many of the qualities of a good scientist, from creativity and teamwork and leadership skills to an ability to pare away complexity, connect ideas and zero in on important problems. Those qualities might have also defined Darwin, whose birthday on Feb. 14 is marked in Guelph by a themed dinner, including such delicacies as finch eggs, held at the home of zoology professor Beren Robinson. Kristjansson transplanted the custom to Iceland after completing his master's here.

Darwin would have approved, says Skulason. "I think they would have gotten along very well."



Tsunami's Impact Is Felt Close to Home

U of G community members use personal and professional ties to help victims of disaster

BY ANDREW VOWLES

Pay Jan. 4, the New Year's parcel remained unsent in Jessica Paterson's home. The master's student in rural planning had begun to assemble the package as a belated Christmas gift for a former co-worker in Sri Lanka.

Then she received news of the deadly tsunami generated by a massive undersea earthquake on Dec. 26 that washed away people, homes and entire coastal communities in Sri Lanka and nearly a dozen other countries bordering the Indian Ocean.

More than a week after the disaster struck, Paterson still didn't know what had happened to her friend, merely that the 35-year-old woman had been listed by the government as "missing." Paterson had grown particularly close to the English teacher, who was her translator during a posting in Sri Lanka four years ago with an international development organization.

Since returning to Canada, Paterson had thought more than once about visiting Southeast Asia again. She may yet return overseas. Quietly, she adds: "PII wait on the package."

Instead, like many other U of G community members with personal and professional ties to those countries devastated by the deadly waves, she has thrown herself into fundraising, relief and information-sharing efforts here at home:

One of Paterson's first steps was to open a bank account to collect donations. By the end of last week, the effort had raised more than \$3,000 (the account continues to receive donations). By Jan. 4, she had already sent \$1,700 to the Sri Lanka Centre for Development Facilitation

(SLCDF), a non-governmental organization whose regional office she had worked with in Sri Lanka.

That organization is headed by Wijewickrama Abeydeera, a 2002 rural studies PhD graduate of Guelph. SLCDF serves as the hub of a network of 3,300 community groups and almost 300 non-governmental organizations across the country.

The southern coastal town of Tangalle in which Paterson had worked on capacity-building programs for two nearby fishing villages was among the last in the area to be reached by relief workers because the coastal road had been so badly damaged.

Not knowing initially what had happened to the community was the worst, although she eventually learned that the family she had lived with had survived.

"Everyone that I know, was friends with and worked with, lived within a kilometre of the coast. Entire communities that I worked in are now gone."

Prof. Jana Janakiram, Rural Extension Studies, was stunned to learn of the scale of the disaster. He says his initial response was: "Why? This country is going through enough already."

Members of his family living inlandwere unaffected by the tsunami. Not so for areas on the south coast, where last spring Janakiram had accompanied Abeydeera to view community development projects.

"I don't know what's happened to those projects," he says, adding that many of the workers lived on-site. "From the media reports, it appears that most of them have been washed away."

Prof. Deepananda Herath, Agricultural Economics and Business (AE&B), says about \$7,000 had been raised by early last week by the Sri Lanka Association for Cambridge, Guelph, Kitchener and Waterloo. He serves as secretary for the organization, which planned to send donations to the SLCDF.

He recalls a 2002 visit to Galle, an area in southern Sri Lanka that was particularly hard-hit. "Will they ever be back to normal?" he says.

Galle is home to the family of Sunil Thrikawala, a 1996 graduate of AE&B and a researcher now working with Prof. Alfons Weersink. Thrikawala just returned to Guelph in the fall with his wife, AE&B professor Jeevika Weerahewa, and their family. He says his parents' home, only about one kilometre from the coast, escaped the waves, although his brother had to run from water that raged in to engulf the seaside market he was visiting that day.

Kumuduni Kulasekera, a master's student in the same department, learned that her sister's house in Matara on the south coast had been washed away. The family had been on holiday in the central part of the country and returned to find a coconut tree fallen across what was left of the house.

Kulasekera expects she'll be involved in long-term reconstruction in the country when she returns with her husband to Sri Lanka in two years. She's completing her degree on leave from her job in Colombo, where she's research manager for an investment board that promotes foreign investment in her country.

"I was crying," she says, recalling the initial news of the disaster and then her panicked attempts to reach her family in Sri Lanka and elsewhere abroad. "I thought the whole Sri Lanka was gone." Sesheeni Joud Selvaratnam grew up in Sri Lanka and studied girls' education on tea plantations at Guelph for her master's in anthropology and international development; she graduated in 2001. But she was preparing last week to head for Indonesia with her husband; both work for Action Contre la Faim/Action Against Hunger, a non-governmental organization based in Paris.

They were going to Aceh at the northern end of Sumatra, near the epicenter of the earthquake. There, she will work as a food security officer, probably helping a team distribute food to tsunami victims.

"We don't know what to expect and know that we will face very difficult and trying times in Aceh," she says

When Naresh Thevathasan learned early on Dec. 26 that his former Sri Lankan hometown had been engulfed by an earthquake-driven wall of water, the research associate in the Department of Environmental Biology wasted little time. By Jan. 7, he and his family had raised about \$6,000 from family and friends, including \$2,700 sent Dec. 27, to pay for food and shelter for the east coast town of Batticaloa. He hopes to raise a total of \$13,000, to be sent to the Lions Club there to build temporary shelters for people left homeless by the waves.

"The magnitude of the devastation is humungous," says Thevathasan, who has worked with environmental biology professor Andrew Gordon on agro-ecosystem projects for some of the world's poorest people in countries such as Ghana and Nepal. At the same time, he says, raising money intended to build shelters in Batticaloa is "achievable. It's small in scale."

Seminar to Focus on Disaster's Effects

Continued from page 1

Employee Assistance Program and the Multi-Faith Resource Team.

Many members of the University have already made individual financial donations to humanitarian service organizations, but U of G is also running a blue ribbon campaign until Jan. 21 on the theme "We Can Make a Difference." Collection boxes have been placed in a range of locations across campus. Funds will be donated to the Red Cross.

In addition to this campus-wide effort, groups and individuals have staged or are organizing fundraising events. Last week, veterinary students Crystal Loh and Jason Hsiao helped run an Ontario Veterinary College initiative that raised more than \$1,000 in cash and online pledges.

Two members of the School of English and Theatre Studies — Prof. Ajay Heble and PhD candidate Jesse Stewart — are involved in organizing a local tsunami relief concert to be held Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Performers will include The Kramdens, Sarah Harmer, The Cryin' Out Loud Choir and Tannis Slimmon, a staff mem-

ber in the Department of Plant Agriculture. Tickets are \$25 through the River Run box office at 763-3000. All funds collected will be donated to UNICEF, and charitable tax receipts will be issued.

Student governments and the International Students Organization are also planning fundraising events. Watch for details on the University's website.

In addition to providing economic support to those affected by the disaster, U of G will be working with faculty and other researchers to assess what short- and long-term help Guelph might provide in research and development expertise, Summerlee says.

Plans are also under way to hold a speaker series later in the semester to discuss the far-reaching impact of the tsunami. That topic will be the focus of an international development seminar being organized by Marshall Gallardo Castaneda, a master's student in rural extension studies. Slated for Jan. 13 at noon in the lobby of the Landscape Architecture Building, the seminar will feature speakers from across campus.

Women's Campus Safety Initiatives Call for Proposals — January 2005

Your proposal will demonstrate that the safety concerns of a broad range of women, or those particularly at risk, are being addressed. Demonstrate the expected Impact of your proposal. We especially encourage submissions from or on behalf of the following at-risk campus populations: women with disabilities, female shift workers, women in non-traditional studies, lesbians, bisexual women, women of colour, aboriginal women and female continuing education students.

Priority will be given to new initiatives that will address women's safety on campus. Support is also provided for programs, Services or departments dealing with women's safety.

Guidelines for applications are available from the Human Rights and Equity Office and the HREO website: http://www.uoguelph.ca/hre/WCSI. htm. The application deadline is 12 p.m., January 27, 2005. Send applications to: Women's Campus Safety Initiatives Proposal, Human Rights and Equity Office, 15 University Avenue East, or fax to 519-822-1131. For more information, call the WCSI Chair, Mahejabeen Ebrahim, at Ext. 56025.

The Women's Campus Safety Initiatives Committee encourages proposals from all members of the University community, individuals or groups, faculty members, staff and students.

THANKS TO FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

My heartfelt thanks to Joanne Shoveller, vice-president (alumni affairs and development), for hosting the wonderful retirement party for me Dec. 21 at her home. Thanks to all who attended.

My best to all my friends and colleagues at the University of Guelph. I have enjoyed my time at the Ontario Veterinary College and Alumni Affairs and Development. I wish you all good health, much success and the strength to face the struggles ahead.

I have the greatest respect for president Alastair Summerlee and wish him all the best in the future. There will be many hurdles that the University will face in the future.

It is now my time to move on to the next journey in my life. With a guided hand, I know I will be directed down the right path.

Norma Seibert

Animal, Human Health Focus of OVC Media **Fellowships**

CASE program enables journalists to interact with

scholars, make new contacts, gain new perspectives

BY KAREN GALLANT

HE ANIMALS that share our planet offer unique opportunities to learn more about many of the diseases that make headlines around the world, including mad cow disease. West Nile virus, avian influenza and SARS. The Ontario Veterinary College will showcase its work related to these and other areas of human health in March as one of the host institutions of the prestigious media fellowships program offered by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

OVC is the sole Canadian participant in the international fellowship program and is one of 19 universities in North America that will host CASE media fellows

The program at OVC, called "On Common Ground: How Veterinary Medicine Affects Human Health," involves three days of interactive hands-on workshops, seminars, discussions and lectures to examine the roles animals play in human health.

Nineteen professors, researchers, alumni and graduate students will all pitch in to help the media understand the work that OVC does.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to interact with the media and to inform the public about our activities related to human health," says Prof. Carlton Gyles, interim dean of OVC. "Human and animal health are linked in many ways. For example, there are many cases - such as with E. coli 0157:H7 and Salmonella

infections - where animals carry bacterial agents of human disease but are not affected by them. Controlling these infections in animals is essential for controlling the diseases in humans.'

During the CASE media fellowship program, Gyles will share his insights from years of research on E. coli infection in animals as part of a panel discussion on food safety.

CASE is an international association of educational institutions that provides resources and information for professional development and sets standards in the fields of educational fundraising, communications and marketing, and alumni relations. Its media fellowship program attracts seasoned print and broadcast journalists, providing opportunities for them to interact with scholars, make new contacts and gain new perspectives that will help

Each day of OVC's fellowship program will focus on one aspect of the relationship between human and animal health. The first day will focus on disease surveillance and transmission, the second on diseases shared by humans and animals, and the third on wider issues that affect both humans and animals, such as climate change, food safety and the human-animal relationship.

OVC is currently accepting applications from journalists interested in attending the fellowship program and will host up to eight participants.

Facts and Myths of Dietary Carbs

Talks to Explore

ITH THE NEW YEAR, many Canadians are turning to or no-carbohydrate diets to meet their weight-loss resolutions, but are the Atkins, South Beach and Zone diets a safe way to lose weight? U of G presents "Carbohydrates Unplugged: A Symposium on Carbohydrates and Health" Jan. 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre to promote the facts and dispel the myths surrounding dietary carbs.

U of G faculty and graduate students, and health and food industry professionals will speak on topics ranging from "Low-Carbohydrate Diets: Benefits in Weight Loss and Metabolic Syndrome" to "The Role of Dietary Carbohydrates in Breast Cancer Prevention.

CBS dean Michael Emes will discuss "Carbohydrates: An Introduction to Their Form and Functionality." Mark Hayhoe, president of Hayhoe Mills Limited, will examine "Carbohydrates in the Food Industry." Randall Kaplan, director of nutrition and scientific affairs for the Canadian Sugar Institute, will present "Sugars and Health: Review of Evidence.

The event is open to the public. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch, refreshments and a wine-and-cheese reception. To register, contact Andra Williams at Ext. 56356 or amwillia@uoguelph.ca.

LAURA PALUMBO

Fourth-year student in veterinary medicine

When Laura Palumbo needs some stress relief after class, she turns to her piano. Or her flute, guitar, saxophone or keyboard. Sometimes she even plays a tune on the accordion.

"It's a really different instrument and fun to play," she says. "My grandfather played it as well, and it's part of my Italian heri-



Palumbo took eight years of classical piano lessons as a child, and her love of music evolved from there.

"My teacher helped me learn songs that I heard on the radio. I always want to learn more. One day, I heard a song on the radio and liked the guitar in it, and I wanted to be able to play it. So I learned to play the guitar.'

Palumbo has diverse musical tastes, including Latin, jazz, rock, rhythm and dance. She played in a jazz band through high school, then was lead singer and guitarist in a rock band in Guelph until she had to leave the group to focus more on her studies. But she's still able to carve out some time to devote to music. Her performances are always popular at the variety show "Cabaret" organized by veterinary students each spring. Last year, she played the accordion in a band with three other students, performing several songs written for the occasion, with vet-related lyrics and titles such as "Put Me Out to Pasture" and "Animals Need Some Lovin' Too."

Palumbo says her music is evolving into more than a hobby. After she finishes the DVM program this spring, she plans to focus on her music, moving to Toronto to record more than 20 songs she's written herself.

"In 10 years, I'd love to be a full-time musician," she says. "But even if my songs aren't on the radio, I'll still be satisfied.

KATAYOUN MOHAIER

Parchment/special projects clerk in Undergraduate Program Services, employed at U of G since 2003.

When Katayoun Mohajer moved to Guelph from Tehran, Iran, in 1997, in addition to speaking Persian, she had a good knowledge of French but knew very little English. She picked up the language while working at The Bookshelf for a year before starting her MBA at U of G in hospitality and tourism management.



Katayoun Mohajer

After completing the MBA and a graduate degree in international development and rural planning, Mohajer now speaks practically flawless English and uses her language skills as a volunteer translator for the Family Service Association of Toronto's "Violence Against

She translates from Persian to English in the courts or in shelters for women who have suffered domestic violence. "It's very emotional, but I try to stay neutral in each case I work on," she says.

Mohajer underwent four months of training to learn how to handle different cases and to repeat a person's words without adding or omitting anything

Power yoga, contemporary dance, squash and scuba

diving keep Mohajer moving throughout the week. She likes the different challenges involved in each sport and admits that she loves new adventures and experiences.

Mohajer was inspired to start dance lessons at the Temple Studio more than a year ago after watching a Dancetheatre David Earle performance in Toronto. She takes two or three classes a week, "I always feel so rejuvenated afterwards," she says.

Mohajer earned her scuba diving certification four years ago and frequently dives at Owen Sound with her brother. "The silence is amazing down there," she says.

Faculty member in the Department of Land Resource Science since 1979

Prof. Stew Hilts has always been up for new challenges. He became chair of his department in 2001, has directed U of G's Centre for Land and Water Stewardship for more than a decade and became a member of the Board of Governors in 2003.



Away from the University, Stew Hilts however, his enthusiasm to try new things is far more physical in

nature: he likes to build things - specifically home additions and, most recently, a log cabin.

"It's a huge contrast with what I do at the University because you're working with your hands and you have to learn new things at every stage," he says. "But I learned it all, from the foundation on up, so to speak."

Hilts started with a 100-year-old house, purchased when he first moved to Guelph. "It was in very poor condition: it had been rented out to a motorcycle gang. We fixed it up and built a large addition, about 1,200 square feet, with passive solar heat. It was a huge undertaking, and I didn't know a thing about building when I started."

But he quickly learned the ins and outs of do-it-yourself home building

"When you decide to renovate, you start looking at your choices, and you quickly realize that you get an awful lot more square footage if you do it yourself. It's actually interesting to learn plumbing, wiring and so on, and you get a huge sense of accomplishment from doing it yourself."

Hilts later sold that house and bought a home in the country, purchased more for its property than house size. So he built an equally large addition on that house - this time with a basement, but he let someone else do the concrete work. "I'd had enough of that on the first

Once that was finished, he started building a bitle log cabin in Grey County. "It's my RRSP. The cabin has been both the most interesting and the most frustrating to build because the construction is so different."

With his duties at U of G taking up much of his time, Hilts has been able to work on the cabin only now and then. Four years later, it's just about finished.

"I find it all very relaxing and fun, although it's fairly intensive," he says. "But I've never been hesitant to tackle new things. I think anyone can do anything they put their mind to doing.

When he's not building, he escapes to the 13th century, reading historical novels of Scotland.

The following appointments were recently announced

- Tracey Alberico, executive assistant to the provost
- Mark Belajac, special constable, Campus Community
- Andrew Brooks, assistant professor, Department of
- · Melanie Chambers, veterinary technician, Large-Animal Clinic, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Barry Gunn, communications officer, development and public relations, Ontario Veterinary College
- Colleen Jones, systems clerk, Hospitality Services · Sofie Lachapelle, assistant professor, Department of
- Brendan Lynch, library assistant, Tri-University
- Group of Libraries Annex, U of G Library Ornella McCarron, accounts clerk/graduate secretary, School of Environmental Design and Rural Develop-

- · Nancy McCarvell, revenue control/travel clerk, Revenue Control, Financial Services
- Zdenek Nejedly, analyst 111, Campus Services, Computing and Communications Services
- Randy Oldham, systems support technician, Information Technology Services, Library
- Kelly Parkinson, research analyst, enrolment statistics, Office of Registrarial Services
- Alexia Prescod, lecturer, Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition Matthew Searle, systems support technician, Informa-
- tion Technology Services, Library · Lisbeth Sider, communications officer, Computing
- Norman Smith, assistant professor, Department of

and Communications Services

· Linda Stadig, secretary, Department of Philosophy • Tina Swindells, residence porter, Student Housing Ser-

Lug a Mug and Save Money, Reduce Waste

Hospitality Services offers incentives to encourage students, faculty and students to use reusable dishes

BY RACHELLE COOPER

SHEILA ATTWELL, marketing manager for Hospitality Services, is looking forward to the day when everyone waiting to buy coffee from one of the University's food vendors is holding a reusable mug.

Hospitality Services eliminated all Styrofoam cups and containers on campus in fall 2004 and has created incentives to encourage students, faculty and staff to use reusable mugs and to reduce waste even more, Attwell says.

One major incentive is the reduced cost of hot and cold beverages for those who bring their own reusable mug or drinking bottle. With any size of mug or bottle, you pay only the small-beverage price for coffee, tea, hot chocolate and draft cold drinks.

"And it doesn't have to be a U of G mug," says Attwell. "Bring in your favourite mug from home and you'll save money on your coffee."

Despite this incentive, many members of the University community continue to use paper cups, she says. In addition, since Hospitality Services made the switch from Styrofoam to paper, some people have been creating more waste by taking two cups instead of one.

"We're encouraging them to instead use a coffee sleeve, but the best alternative is to bring your own mug," says Attwell.

To further reward U of G members for using reusable dishes, Hospitality Services developed the "Enviro Card Program" for the University Centre and the LA Pit.

"When you use your own dishes for a purchased main entree, you can choose between a stamp on your Enviro Card — a total of 10 stamps gets you a free meal — or a 25-cent discount on your meal," says Attwell.

Hospitality Services also sells dishware at base cost and provides wash stations and dish soap for people to use, she adds.

In addition to using biodegradable paper products instead of Styrofoam, Hospitality Services has introduced cups that look and feel like plastic but are actually made from corn and are biodegradable.

Local Ontario products are purchased whenever possible to help support local businesses, says Attwell

"We also display baked goods like muffins and cookies in baskets and bins rather than individually wrapping them, to reduce excess packaging."

For more information on Hospitality Services' sustainability initiatives, visit www.hospitality.uoguelph.ca.



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore, to be held at the end of the semester. Winner of the fall semester draw is Lillian Wilson of Human Resources. Anyone who submits the right answer by Jan. 14 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.cooper@exec.Loguelph.ca or call Ext. 569B2. The following people identified the Dec. B photo as the ceiling of the Gryphon Dome: Karen MacDonald, Steve Gazzola, Leslie Irons, Judy O'Donnell, Shari Dorr, Lillian Wilson, Wayne Aitken, Betty Clyde, Vikki Tremblay, Ken Kudo, Sandy Hellewell, Ola Adanijo, Tim Mau, Alf Conley, John Vanmanen, Bill McFadden, Lillian DeBruin, Bill Wong and Jeff Haines.

Albumin Treatment Promising

Continued from page 1

out. In cases where capillaries become leaky, albumin can actually act as a "plug," helping to minimize the loss of fluid into the surrounding

Mathews and Nykamp want to determine where albumin travels when administered to an animal. To do this, they will use specially labelled albumin that can be traced as it makes its way through the body. So far, the treatment looks promising. Early indications from OVC have shown encouraging results in more than 200 critically ill animals that have received albumin treatment. The full study will initially use healthy dogs. First, the researchers must trace the path of albumin in the blood vessels of a normal, healthy animal.

From there, critically ill dogs will

undergo treatment as normal but will receive labelled albumin so that Mathews and Nykamp can determine how effectively administered albumin can plug the leaky vessels.

If this treatment is successful, says Mathews, veterinarians may have a new tool to treat dogs with capillary leak syndrome.

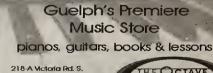
This study is sponsored by OVC's Pet Trust.





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CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

New three-bedroom bright basement apartment in Westminster Woods, private entrance, two baths, laundry, air conditioning, direct bus, each room has cable, phone, Internet and lock, \$425 per room per month inclusive, furnished. 763-8444 or celineakram @rogers.com.

Rooms in shared home near Stone Road Mall, high-speed Internet, hot tub, close to bus stop, parking for one vehicle, non-smoker, no pets, \$400 a month, 767-1593.

Basement apartment in private home in Emma/Stevenson Street area, mature professional couple or female preferred, light laundry, parking, private entrance, no pets, non-smoker, \$675 a month inclusive, 836-7587 after 6 p.m.

Two-bedroom house on Aberdeen Street, single driveway with carport, fenced yard, walking distance to downtown, close to bus stop, park and schools, available Feb. 1, \$1,000 a month plus utilities, 766-1452 or amykoebel@rogers.com.

One bedroom in large two-bedroom apartment, 10-minute walk to campus, off-street parking, laundry, mature professional or grad student preferred, available Feb. 1, \$405 a month inclusive, 823-9488 or atucker@uoguelph.ca.

Luxury cottage on the southwest coast of Ireland, Ring of Kerry,

987 York Rd., Guelph 836-7060

Y, non-smokers, no pets, suitable for professionals or mature students. \$900 a month, 829-2419.

Walkout basement apartment in private home on half-acre property, private patio, parking, \$750 a month

FOR SALE

1999 Volvo S70, GLT, silver, garaged, non-smoker, all records, mint condition, AM/FM/CD, sunroof, everything automatic, 72,000 kms, four premium winter tires included 767-6734

1995 Plymouth Voyager, red, excellent condition, new starter, brakes and tires, air, auto locks, AM/FM cassette, 127,000 kilometres, wellmaintained, certified, e-tested, Julie, Ext. 54184 or jaudet@uoguelph.ca.

Hockey equipment and skates for ages nine to 11, excellent condition, Ext. 53387 or 821-1493.

Stove, older model, works well, Ext. 52043 or barb@pr.uoguelph.ca.

Crib sets: white wash oak crib and mahogany crib, both with matching dresser and change table, no mattresses, excellent condition, Nadia, Ext. 56878 or 821-3644.

Canadian-built 1995 Bonair Classic 1200, hard-top trailer, purchased in 1996 with all options, excellent condition, for photos see http://members.rogers.com/kelschwab/forsale, Kel or Janet, 519-653-5809, 416-258-4194 or kel@kelschwab.com.

Epson Stylus Colour 440 printer with unopened new cartridge, Ajoy, 824-2198 or abista@uoguelph.ca.

LG Studioworks 775N 17-inch monitor, Ext. 56042, 766-1461 or gsabatin@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom townhouse in Westminster Woods, three baths, finished basement with walkout to yard and trails, central air, Ext. 52622, 827-6169 or heberl@uoguelph.ca.

Four-bedroom split-level house with country-size lot on Mayfield near Stone and Gordon, gas heat, numerous upgrades, tastefully decorated,

AVAILABLE

Experienced house cleaner, references supplied, Lisa, 763-4506.

Free: Dark pine super single bookcase waterbed with drawers below, includes heater, reasonable condition, 787-4149 after 6 p.m.

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Motivated volunteers for overseas community development projects with Youth Challenge International starting

787-3841. in December, January and February. Two-bedroom apartment, separate Visit www.vci.org entrance, parking, Internet, close to POSSIBILITIES ARE **ENDLESS** ... Design your own unique pattern, the possibilities are endless! • EXTENSIVE SELECTIONS • Ceramic Marble Slate OVER 1000 COLOURS TO CHOOSE LANGE TO SERVICE TO "Quality and Craftsmanship are a Family Tradition"

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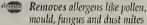
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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Naturalist Zoc Fitzgerald leads owl prowls Jan. 28 and 29 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults or \$30 for a family of four. Deadline for registration and payment is Jan. 14.

LECTURES

The 2005 MBA lecture series presents "Battle of the Brands: Going the Distance," a panel discussion on building brand equity, Jan. 19 from 8:30 to 11:20 a.m. in Rozanski 108. Moderator is Michael Cox, E-MBA graduate program co-ordinator. Panellists are Bruce Andrews, vice-president, central region operations, Van Houtte Café, and David Spragge, vice-president, food service North America, Dr. Oetker Canada.

The Canada Research Chair lecture series continues Jan. 19 with Prof. Frances Sharom, Molecular and Cellular Biology, discussing "The Ins and Outs of Membrane Proteins" at 4:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

NOTICES

Applications are now being accepted for the 13th annual Gordon Nixon Leadership Awards, which are available to campus-based student organizations to support significant new initiatives that promote student involvement, service and leadership. The awards were established by the Annual Fund in recognition of 1937 OAC graduate Gordon Nixon. Application deadline is Feb. 18. For more details, visit www.studentlife. uoguelph.ca/sao/awards.htm or call Fxt. 52994.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering classes in relaxation and stress management skills training beginning Jan. 25. Three sessions are available — at 12:30 p.m. in UC 334, at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1691 and at 8 p.m. in UC 332. Classes run Tuesdays and Thursdays for six weeks. The clinic is also offering a five-session better

sleep program heginning Jan. 21 at 12:30 p.m. in UC 334 and a four-session program on managing head-aches beginning Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 390. For more information, pick up a pamphlet at the Info Desk on UC Level 1, visit www. uoguclph.ca/-ksomers or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The International Development Research Centre's gender unit and regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean seek applications for a Professional Development Award beginning in April 2005. For details, visit http://web.idr.c.a.

Heidi Thiessen Memorial Awards for student writing are available to third- and fourth-year students. Application deadline is Feb. 11. For details, visit www.stc-soc.org/ awards/student.php.

The Guelph YMCA-YWCA invites nominations for its 10th annual Women of Distinction Awards. The deadline is Jan. 31. For more information, visit www. guelphy.org.

SEMINARS

The Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series presents Erin Westman discussing "Structural Characterization of WbpD (PA3156), a Putative N-acetyltransferase Required for Biosynthesis of B-band LPS in Pseudomonas aeruginosa Jan. 14. On Jan. 21 Kasia Kaluzny considers "Biochemical Characterization of Wzy, an O-antigen Polymerase Involved in B-band Biosynthesis in Pseudomonas aeruginosa Serotype O5." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

The School of Languages and Literatures hosts Alison Keith of Victoria College at the University of Toronto discussing "Roman Politics/Greek Myths: The Myth of Thebes in Ancient Rome" Jan. 14 at 2:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 237.

Next up in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences seminar series Jan. 17 is Amanda Wright of the Department of Food Science discussing "Lipids: From Structure and Physical Properties to Nutritional Functionality" at 10:30 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Department of Physics seminar features Michele Mosca of the University of Waterloo Jan. 18. On Jan. 25, Edwin Taylor of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology discusses "On Beyond Newton." The seminars are at 4 p.m. in MacNauehton 101.

"What/When Measurement Invariance Is/Isn't Equivalent" is the topic of Prof. Scott Maitland, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, in the Cognitive Science Group's seminar series Jan. 19. On Jan. 26, Prof. Michael Peters, Psychology, offers "Some Musings About Sex Differences in Spatial Performance." The talks begin at 3:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 232.

The College of Arts "Research in Progress" series features Prof. Gerta Moray, Fine Art and Music, discussing "North of Northwest: Crossing the Canada/U.S. Border With Emily Carr" Jan. 19 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 103.

Aga Khan Foundation Canada's annual university seminar series, which brings development professionals from Asia and Africa to Canada to share their knowledge and experience with students, comes to U of G Jan. 27. This year's theme is "Local Ownership: Translating Theory Into Practice." The free seminar runs from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Arboretum.

TEACHING SUPPORT

This semester, Teaching Support Services is offering a workshop series on the "Scholarship of Teaching." First up Jan. 27 is a discussion of

"Teaching-Based Research: Guelph Examples." On Jan. 20, TSS's ongoing luncheon series for new faculty continues with a session on "Supervising TAs." For instructors currently running WebCT courses, TSS offers the advanced training series "WebCT Strategies." Weekly topics in the series include "Conferencing" Jan. 19, "The Gradebook" Jan. 27 and "Assessment" Feb. 1. In addition to these formal workshops, TSS runs weekly drop-in clinics for instructors on Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. Online registration for all TSS workshops is through the website www.tss. uoguelph.ca. If you have questions about TSS workshops, call Ext. 53571 or send e-mail to tssworks @uoguelph.ca.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Jay Squire, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, is Jan. 17 at 2 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "Fermentation of an Alternative Feedstuff for Use in Swine Liquid Feeding." The adviser is Prof. Kees de Lange.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Craig Blackie, Zoology, is Jan. 21 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "The Influence of Culture History on Genetic Variation in the Cultured Arctic Char (Salvelinus alpinus) of Eastern Canada." The adviser is Prof. Moira Ferguson.

The final examination of Robert Summers, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program (School of Landscape Architecture), is Jan. 24 at 9 a.m. in Landscape Architecture 143. The thesis is "Indigenous Institutions of Water Point Management: A Study of Three Cases in Rural Malawi." The adviser is Prof. John FitzGibbon.

The final examination of PhD candidate Shankar Chowdhury, Animal and Poultry Science, is Feb. 7 at 2

p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "Comparative Aspects of Fusarium Mycotoxicoses in Laying Hens, Turkeys and Ducks." The adviser is Prof. Trevor Smith.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The next meeting of the Federation of University Women Guelph is Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Guelph Music Centre, 75 Cardigan St. Guest speaker is Anthony Hopkins, an English professor at Glendon College, who will present "A Walk Across England." New members are welcome.

The Elora Festival Singers present a soup concert Jan. 23 at St. John's Church in Elora, featuring a light lunch and a short talk on the music of Healey Willan, which the singers will then perform. The lunch begins at 1:30 p.m., with the talk at 2:30 p.m. and the concert at 3 p.m. For ticket information, call 846-0331 or visit www.elorafestivalsingers.org.

The Willis Karate International Competition Team is hosting a fundraiser featuring illusionist and magician Larry Hitchcock, who will perform Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 22 at 1:30 p.m. at War Memorial Hall, For tickets, call 221-0030.

Third Age Learning-Guelph presents its 35th season of lectures starting Jan. 12. The Wednesday morning series focuses on Guelph authors. The theme of the Wednesday afternoon series is "Beer, Wine and Spirits." On Thursday mornings, the topic is "The Arctic." Lectures are held in the Arboretum Centre at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. For registration information, call 823-1292 or visit www. thirdagelearningguelph.ca.

The Exhibition Park Neighbourhood Group's next community meeting is Jan. 20 at 7:15 p.m. in the upper viewing area of the Exhibition Arena. For more information, call 837-5625, Ext. 231.

Fit to Be Tried

Athletics Centre overhauls cardio and weight areas to create a more modern, better-equipped fitness centre

BY RACHELLE COOPER

HE CARDIO AND WEIGHT AREAS of the Mitchell Athletics Centre got a complete overhaul over the holidays, transforming the space into a more modern, well-equipped fitness centre.

When U of G's new director of athletics, Tom Kendall, arrived on campus in September 2004, he was not impressed with the quality of the fitness equipment and immediately decided to make upgrades a priority.

"It's my belief that our students,

faculty and staff should have the best programs and service we can provide," says Kendall. "I felt the need to upgrade the fitness/weight room equipment and decor so our members would have a spa-type facility and first-class equipment. Upgrades to the cardio and weight-training equipment and the installation of a video entertainment system will make the facility more effective and much more user-friendly."

More than \$100,000 worth of cardio equipment, including five top-of-the-line Woodway tread-

mills, new cross-training machines and recumbent bikes, was purchased for the cardio theatre, which now includes televisions and is located on the balcony on the east side of the main gym. A small circuit area, a few light weights and the spinning class stationary bicycles are now also located on the east balcony.

The old circuit room and cardio room now make up the strength-training area. More than \$30,000 worth of weights, benches and Bosu balls were purchased to upgrade and add to existing equipment.

The old cardio room is now the training room for more advanced lifting.

"It has lots of benches, lots of heavier free weights and more room for people to work on advanced training," says Pat Richards, lifestyle/fitness program supervisor. The old circuit room now houses the medium to lighter weight-training equipment and body part machines.

The new strength-training area was also renovated to include new carpet and fresh paint.

"We worked with interior de-

signers on campus to create a more pleasant environment," says Richards. "We're committed to doing what it takes to keep our students, faculty and staff healthier."

Adds Kendall: "This is only Phase 1 of a three-year plan to phase out the old ergonomically incorrect equipment and to get up to speed in creating a better fitness centre."

Renovating the women's change room on the main floor of the Athletics Centre is high on the list of work that will be done in the near future, he says.

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UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

INSIDE: MORE BUDGET CHALLENGES LIE AHEAD • AN EYE FOR SAFETY • THE SCIENCE OF TSUNAMIS

Political Scientists Witness History in the Making

Two Guelph professors among Canadian observers at recent elections in Ukraine and Palestine

BY REBECCA KENDALL

HILE MANY OF US were watching TV reports or reading newspaper accounts of the recent elections in Ukraine and Palestine, Profs Fred Eidlin and William Christian, Political Science, were witnessing history in the making first-hand as election observers.

On Dec. 21. Eidlin left Ottawa for Kiev with a delegation of 500 Canadians to observe the second round of the Ukrainian presidential election. The first election a month earlier had been widely disputed amid alle-gations of media bias, intimidation and the poisoning of candidate Viktor Yushchenko. The results of the election were later annulled. making way for a second election Dec. 26.

The Canadian delegation had two days of orientation in Ottawa and another two in Kiev. They were then deployed to various locations to begin preparing for election day.

The purpose of inviting international observers, says Eidlin, was "to make sure the election was fair. There appears to have been very little fraud on this round. The very presence of so many foreign observers deterred the kind of fraud that led to invalidation of the first

His tasks included spot-checking polls, following ballot boxes used in mobile voting and ensuring that too many people weren't trying to vote at once or that some weren't trying to vote more than once. Monitors were asked to point out any violations to those staffing the polls, as well as to their team leaders. They were also encouraged to make suggestions for improving procedures.

Eidlin says the election officials he observed in his five assigned polls in Rivne, a province in the northwestern region of the country, were careful to follow proper procedure.

A specialist in countries of the former Soviet Union, of which Ukraine was once a part, he speaks both Russian and Czech and understands Ukrainian. Although Rivne is an entirely Ukrainian-speaking region, he found that people were quite willing to speak Russian, so his inability to speak Ukrainian wasn't a

The people I met were excited and pleased with all the international attention they were getting. And almost all of the election officials I observed, regardless of which candidate they represented, were trying hard to do things right."

Eidlin believes his experience in Ukraine and Russia, his linguistic

Continued on page 10

U of G's United Way Support 'Outstanding'

HE UNIVERSITY community responded generously to the 2004 appeal for United Way Services of Guelph and Wellington, pledging a total of \$348,179.28.

That figure represents 107 per cent of the 2004 goal and exceeds campus giving in 2003 by more than \$29,000.

The U of G response was "outstanding," say campaign co-chairs Anthony Clarke, acting associate vice-president (research and international programs), and Irene Thompson, assistant director of residence life, who applaud the efforts of volunteer co-ordinators and canto help support local service agen-

The University campaign saw an 18-per-cent rise in the number of leadership donors giving more than \$1,000, earning recognition from United Way Services of Guelph and Wellington as Leadership Campaign of the Year. The Guelph-based organization also commended U of Gretirees, who increased giving by eight per cent to \$48,196, and students, who contributed more than \$7,000 to the 2004 campaign.

Overall, the city/county appeal raised \$2.33 million.



Playwright, director and actor Guillermo Verdecchia is U of G's writer-in-residence this winter.

He's All Write!

Governor General Award-winning playwright shares his expertise at Guelph

BY RACHELLE COOPER

OR ME, writing is a way of engaging with the world," Guillermo Verdecchia, a Governor General Award-winning playwright who is U of G's 2005 writer-in-residence. "It's a way of understanding the world and trying to work on the world."

Verdecchia, who is also a director and actor, will be available to students, faculty and members of the Guelph community this semester to discuss his work, help with their own writing or talk about the business of

"The writer-in-residence program is an important initiative developed with support from both the College of Arts and the Canada Council," says Prof. Jacqueline Murray, dean of the College of Arts. "It allows us to bring in fine writers whose presence benefits our students and faculty and contributes to the amazing literary community that characterizes Guelph.'

Prof. Alan Shepard, director of the School of English and Theatre Studies, adds: "I am delighted that we were able to recruit Guillermo back to campus to work as writer-in-residence this winter. He has taught acting and playwriting for us previously and, in 2002, we produced his play Final Decisions: War. It was a great success.

Verdecchia says his writing is prompted by "an idea or a problem or a question that interests me or that I want to know more about, that

won't leave me alone."

His 1993 one-person play, Fronteras Americanas, which received both a Governor General's Award for drama and a Chalmers Canadian Play Award, "was an attempt to figure out where I lived," he says. "It was an attempt to resolve this division that I felt in terms of my position as a Latin American living in Canada."

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and raised in Ontario, Verdecchia has had to deal with misconceptions, stereotypes and myths surrounding his Latin American identity. In Fronteras Americanas, he was able to explore one person's struggle to build a home between the two cultures

Verdecchia also wrote and starred in a short film adaptation of Fronteras Americanas called Crucero/ Crossroads, which played at film festivals around the world and received nine international awards.

As a theatre maker, he says one of his main goals is to challenge whose voice is considered valuable in Canadian theatre.

"The theatre seems to be overwhelmingly Anglo-Caucasian in Canada, and yet if you look at our cities, they're not at all. I'm really interested in crossing boundaries and depicting different ways of being

In addition to tackling those challenges through his own writing, Verdecchia just finished a five-year term as artistic director of Cahoots

Theatre Projects, a company dedicated to the development and production of new Canadian plays that reflect the country's cultural diversity.

While at Guelph, he hopes to dedicate time to working on a new play that he's co-writing with Canadian theatre director and writer Daniel Brooks.

"It will be informed by the idea of ecology in terms of environments and ecological systems, and also in terms of families as an ecology, Verdecchia says.

He and Brooks have collaborated on several other plays, including The Noam Chomsky Lectures, which received a Chalmers Award and was shortlisted for a Governor General's Award, and Insomnia. A Line in the Sand, a play he co-wrote with Marcus Youssef, also received a Chalmers Award.

In addition to plays, Verdecchia writes screenplays and short fiction. He published a collection of short stories called Citizen Suarez and is currently working on a piece of

On March 2, he will give a reading at 6:30 p.m. in Lower Massey Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Verdecchia will hold office hours most Mondays and Tuesdays in February and March and is also available by appointment. To book an appointment, call Elizabeth Gilbertson at Ext. 53147 or send e-mail to egilbert@uoguelph.ca.



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from the president

More Budget Challenges Lie Ahead for U of G

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.

S MOST OF YOU KNOW, budget challenges are nothing new for this university.

In the mid-1990s, Guelph started increasing undergraduate and graduate enrolment in response to opportunities for additional government revenue that could help us improve the quality of the University.

The enrolment increases came at a cost, including larger class sizes and changes in practices and services. Unfortunately, some of the government commitments to increase support did not materialize.

Most recently, commitments for quality investment associated with the double cohort were not fulfilled in 2004. As a result, last year the University had to introduce across-the-board cuts and an early retirement/resignation program to help provide ongoing reductions to base budgets.

Against this backdrop, the reputation of the University has continued to rise, thanks to the considerable hard work and commitment of staff, faculty, students and alumni. But we - and the entire Ontario university system have substantial challenges in the coming year.

There are expectations from the current round of negotiations with almost every employee group, and the cost of benefits, including pensions, continues to rise. Student/faculty ratios are still critically high despite a significant period of hiring, and staff hiring has not kept pace with the new facilities and increased enrolment. Buildings across campus are in dire need of renovation, and we have ongoing commitments for construction projects needed to maintain and enhance quality.

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food has been stable for a number of years, and every effort is being made to ensure that it will continue to be so. But the funding level doesn't change from year to year, so the University has to cover incremental costs such as salary increases and expenses, while maintaining the research component of the programs.

Although there is optimism about the recommendations of the Rae review of post-secondary education, it is necessary to be cautious about the possibility of significant provincial re-investment in universities for the next two years due to the provincial budget situation and the challenges of health care. This means Guelph and every other university in Ontario will once again face difficult fiscal times.

Currently, the provost and deans are developing an integrated planning process that will guide strategic decision-making across campus. It is extremely important that we allow time for this process to be completed.

In the interim, it is imperative that we develop a short-term plan to deal with the financial realities of the next two years. The provincial government is not expected to release its budget until after our budget year begins May 1. As was the case last year, we cannot wait for the government. We must be fiscally prudent and move forward with our planning, so we can submit a preliminary budget to Board of Governors in April. The short-range plan must also fit into the context of the long-term vision for the University, serving as a bridge between the current budgetary challenges and our future aspirations.

Our immediate focus must be on committing resources and/or personnel to critical strategic areas and initiatives, and on finding ways to contain costs, increase revenues and reduce operating expenses.

Options that will have to be considered include budget cuts to departments and units; reductions to building operating costs; and reductions in personnel costs, including a second voluntary retirement/resignation program and limits to salary

We will also have to find new ways of increasing revenues from a variety of sources. This could include increasing the percentage of graduate students eligible for funding; boosting fundraising efforts to alleviate operating budget expenditures; maximizing revenue from federal infrastructure operating funds; aggressively pursuing greater financial flexibility through increased research activity, revenues and cost-recovery initiatives; and, when appropriate, reviewing tuition and ancillary fees.

There is still much uncertainty about the budgets and prospective revenues for the 2005/2006 budget. We will, of course, continue to press the government to honour and increase its funding commitments. But even the most optimistic forecasts suggest that the University will have a shortfall of between \$11 million and \$12 million. This is about twice the size of the shortfall we faced at this time last year.

I have asked vice-presidents, deans and directors to consider how we can bridge this funding gap. As I mentioned earlier, one of the options is reducing cost increases. Already, the vice-presidents and I have agreed to forgo salary increases for 2005/2006.

I realize this will be an arduous process and a difficult time for the entire institution. But 1 am confident that, working together as a community, we can achieve the necessary budgetary savings while moving forward with a long-term strategic plan for the University's future.

AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date	Deadline	Publication Date	Deadline	
Feb. 9	Feb. 1	April 20	April 13	
Feb. 23	Feb. 15	May 4	April 27	
March 9	March 1	May 18	May 11	
March 23	March 15	June 1	May 25	
April 6 March 30		June 15	June 8	

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Senate is calling for nominations of University community members to serve on a review/selection committee for the dean of graduate studies. Prof. Isobel Heathcote's term as dean ends this spring, and she has indicated a willingness to serve an additional term. Chaired by the provost, the committee will consist of the vice-president (research), a college dean, three tenured faculty who are members of the graduate faculty, one graduate student and one regular full-time staff member. Nominees need not be memhers of Senate. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 2. For a nomination form, contact the Senate office at Ext. 56760.

CBS AWARD RECOGNIZES TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The College of Biological Science seeks nominations for its annual Award for Excellence in Teaching. All members of the University community are invited to nominate a faculty member or a teaching team or group in CBS for this award. Nomination forms are available in the offices of department chairs and should be submitted to the dean of CBS by the first week of March.

BENEFIT CONCERT PLANNED FOR GUELPH STUDENT

A group of U of G students are hosting a benefit concert Feb. 11 at the Bullring for Guelph student and Gryphon lacrosse player Jamie Thornley, who was involved in a traffic accident in Ohio Jan. 3 that killed his mother and sister. He is currently in hospital in Hamilton. The concert will feature the band Harpoon Dodger, whose members are roommates and friends of Thornley's, and the acoustic duo Dala. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and the show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC SET

Canadian Blood Services will hold a campus blood donor clinic Jan. 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. To schedule an appointment, send e-mail to bshepard@uoguelph.ca. To volunteer at the clinic, send e-mail to emcinnes@uoguelph.ca.

FRENCH JOURNALISTS VISIT AS PART OF CANADIAN TOUR

Five French journalists visited campus Jan. 20 as part of a cross-country trip organized by the Canadian Embassy in France to promote post-secondary educational opportunities in Canada. The journalists, who write for major newspapers and magazines in France, met with president Alastair Summerlee; Whiteside, vice-president (student affairs); and Prof. Anthony Clarke, acting associate vice-president (research and international programs). They also toured the Ontario Veterinary College and the Controlled-Environment Systems Research Facility, and met with French students attending U of G. The group visited 10 universities in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

Province Supports Diverse Research Projects at U of G

Guelph initiatives receive close to \$12 million in support

million from the provincial government as the final financial commitments for three ground-breaking research initiatives. Two of the projects — a facility for cell membranes and surfaces research and an applied evolution centre — are central components of the University's new science complex. The third is a first-ever database of the 1891 Canadian census.

The Canada Foundation for Innovation provided nearly \$12 million in initial support for the three initiatives last spring. They involve dozens of faculty and researchers from a variety of disciplines, as well as collaborators at universities across Canada and abroad.

"We are extremely pleased that the Ontario government has provided equivalent funding that will allow us to advance these important projects," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). "The work being done will enhance Ontario's and Canada's capacity in biological, physical and social sciences."

Some \$8 million of the funding came from the Ontario Innovation Trust, and more than \$3.6 million will be provided through the new Ontario Research Fund through the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade.

Liz Sandals, MPP for Guelph-Wellington, says the provincial government understands that research is crucial to Ontario's future prosperity and position as a leading innovation economy.

"These grants recognize the role

of the University of Guelph as an important research institution," she

More than \$7 million of the funding will support a facility for research on the surfaces and membranes of living cells. Headed by microbiology professor Chris Whitfield, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Molecular Microbiology, the facility will involve more than 20 researchers from five U of G departments and will be housed in the science complex's Advanced Analysis Centre.

Some of the planned research includes new approaches to understanding how molecules are transported into — or out of — living cells. This is critically important in understanding processes involved in human diseases and developing effective new strategies for therapeutic intervention.

Other projects deal with the interactions of bacterial cell surfaces with metals, which has major impact in the global cycling of minerals in the environment and could offer possible bioremediation approaches to deal with contaminated soils.

Several technology development ventures are also planned with private-sector partners.

Botany professor Brian Husband, holder of the Canada Research Chair in Plant Population and Evolutionary Biology, received more than \$4 million to lead an applied evolution centre.

Applied evolution is an emerging field in biology and biotechnology that explores ways to predict and manage the genetic impacts of humans on other organisms and to modify and better harness the evolutionary process for practical purposes.

Also housed in the science complex, the centre will contain controlled-environment facilities and a genomics lab. The controlled-environment facilities will include a greenhouse for large-scale research, a header house and several growth rooms and cabinets for smaller-scale experiments that require precise environments. The genomics lab will include facilities that will handle much of the campus needs for gene sequencing and gene expression work.

Economics professor Kris Inwood and his collaborators, history professors Kevin James and Douglas McCalla, received more than \$300,000 to complete a first-of-its-kind database of the 1891 Canadian census.

The census is one of the highest-quality Canadian enumerations ever taken, containing distinct features that make it an especially valuable research resource.

The three professors, along with other researchers from the College of Arts and College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, will finish creating an Ontario database of the 1891 census and merge it with information from three Atlantic provinces, Quebec and Western Canada to create a national source that adds to a growing international collection of databases on household information.

people

ARTIST EXHIBITS WORKS

A survey of recent painting by Prof. John Kissick, director of the School of Fine Art and Music, is on exhibit at the Doris McCarthy Gallery at the Scarborough campus of the University of Toronto until March 6. He will give an artist's talk at the gallery Esh. 2 at 7 pm.

DAVENPORT CHAIRS BOARD

Lynda Davenport, director of Student Health Services, has been elected chair of the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Board of Health.

- The following appointments have recently been announced at U of G:
- Lorena Barker, accounts clerk, a
 Office of Open Learning
- Brenda Cassidy, communications co-ordinator, Ontario Agricultural College
- Cindy Doern, radiography technician, diagnostic imaging, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Lisa Kohlmeier, secretary/ receptionist, Environmental Health and Safety
- Jim Lennie, associate director, Information Infrastructure Services, Computing and Communications Services
- Helen MacGregor, administrative clerk/receptionist, Kemptville College
- Patricia Matz, assistant to the director, Environmental Health and Safety
- Wendy Perkes, agricultural assistant, Small-Animal Clinic, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- David Walsh, farm machinery mechanic, Research Stations Operations, Office of Research
- Bo Wandschneider, associate director, Information Systems Services, Computing and Communications Services
- Bre Wick, accounts receivable clerk, Kemptville College
- Len Yunglut, chief stationary engineer, Maintenance and Operations, Physical Resources
- Karen Zago, administrative support assistant, Faculty Recruitment and Provost's Office.

University Applications Down Across the Ontario System

U of G on target to meet enrolment expectations, says provost

HE ONTARIO Universities' Application Centre released its annual "snapshot" of secondary school student applications Jan. 19. The report is intended to help universities with their enrolment planning based on the number of applications from high school students.

The report includes data showing how many students applied to Ontario's universities; the number of applications those students generated; and which schools were their first, second, third or even "fourth or lower" choices.

The number of high school students applying to Ontario universities increased by 2.5 per cent systemwide, but the average number of choices each student made decreased from about five to four. As a result, the total number of applications is down across Ontario.

This is reflected at U of G, but the majority of its decrease relates to applicants who placed Guelph as their fourth choice or lower—accounting for 80 per cent of the change. The number of first-choice applicants to U of G decreased only 1.5 per cent—or 63 students.

Guelph remains sixth among all Ontario universities in terms of total number of applicants. The University continues to attract an average of about five applicants for every semester-one space available on its main campus and three applications for every spot available at the University of Guelph-Humber.

"Our applicant pool remains very

strong, and we are on target to meet our enrolment expectations," says Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic).

"We had already planned to reduce first-year enrolment at the main campus next fall by 600 students — to 3,450 — as part of our post-double cohort strategic planning," she says.

Mancuso adds that recruiting the best and brightest students will be an increasingly competitive process as the number of applicants returns to pre-double cohort levels. The University will continue with its strategic planning for enrolment, she says.

U of G will begin making early offers to students in February, with most of its admission offers going out in April.

In Memoriam

KEITH GODWIN

Retired staff member Keith Godwin of the Department of Athletics died Jan. 11 at the age of 66. He was employed at U of G from 1987 to 2004. He is survived by two brothers, Neil and Ken.

BLANCHE HERTZBERG

Retired staff member Blanche Hertzberg died Dec. 23 in London at the age of 84. Former assistant to the dean of graduate studies, she worked at U of G from 1968 to

BELA RIEGER

Retired horticultural science professor Bela Rieger died Jan. 12 at the age of 90. A 1961 M.Sc. graduate of OAC, he taught at Guelph from 1960 to 1979. He is survived by bis wife, llona; two daughters; and four grandchildren.

It's His Job to Play It Safe

BY ANDREW VOWLES

ATCH YOUR STEP."
That's the warning on a sign posted on the door of the yellow portable building near U of G's main entrance that houses Chris White's office. The words also make an appropriate tagline for his work as the University's recently appointed director of environmental health and safety (EHS).

White arrived in the corner office last summer from a similar position at Carleton University. His arrival coincided with a restructuring here at Guelph that now sees his department report directly to the (finance and vice-president administration).

Previously, EHS belonged to Human Resources, along with Occupational Health and Safety (both units still share that portable building). White works with six employees four safety officers who are specialists in radiation, industrial and agricultural safety, occupational hygiene and hazardous materials and two administrative secretaries.

Including White, who is a chemistry graduate of Carleton, the department brings together diploma, graduate and post-graduate credentials in physics, chemistry, chemical engineering and veterinary medicine.

"It's a great team," he says. "That's what attracted me here; I knew it was a place that cared about health and safety."

He's not alone. White says he's fielded calls from other colleges and universities in Canada to inquire about laser safety, asbestos control and other aspects of health and

"From an outsider's perspective, this is one of the best environmental health and safety units in Ontario."

Central to its operations is the environmental health and safety policy manual. Dating to 2000, the manual spells out responsibilities and procedures for managers and supervisors across campus. Besides writes and revises policies and procedures along with his co-workers and with other departments, from central administration and Human Resources to Physical Resources and Campus Community Police.

The list of laws you're responsible for is enormous," he says. "There are hundreds of regulations and standards we have to follow."

One university's EHS office is much like another, says White, reflecting on his time as EHS manager

"Slips, trips and falls are the No. 1 cause of accidents at a university.

Still, he allows that Guelph has its peculiarities. Take that agricultural safety officer, a specialty he hadn't encountered in Ottawa.

From a cow stepping on people's feet to dog bites to cat scratches, these are reportable accidents and unique when compared with other universities."

One issue common to all post-secondary institutions of a certain vintage is asbestos control, a key file in his portfolio just now. White has been involved in revising Guelph's asbestos pobcy and management program, including updating the asbestos inventory to ensure employees and contractors know precisely where the material is before starting work in campus buildings. He's working with Pinchin Environmental Ltd., an environmental consulting firm that is currently reviewing the campus asbestos inventory and developing an accompanying training program.

White is also an ex officio member of U of G's Joint Health and Safety Committee (IHSC), where he provides advice and information and shares issues raised by departments across campus. He says the committee, which consists of worker and management representatives from across campus, is key to ensuring regular review of processes and procedures and to implementing needed changes.

The IHSC works with local health



Environmental health and safety director Chris White says slips, trips and falls are the No. 1 cause of accidents at a university.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

and safety committees, which conduct regular workplace inspections. document incidents and make recommendations towards the improvement of campus safety. White's department helps investigate and document accidents, spills or injuries on campus, partly explaining the hard hat, safety glasses and lab coat in his office. As for those black dress shoes - yes, they're steel-toed

"We're not health and safety police," he says, explaining that members of the campus community should always discuss pertinent concerns and issues with their supervisor first. "The worker is the eyes and ears of the entire organization.'

He's forever got an eye out for potential hazards, from stained ceiling tiles (a sign of potential water damage and mould growth) to fraving or untidy extension cords underfoot. That heightened sensitivity hardly lessens at home, where, White confesses, he sometimes drives his family to distraction with his emphasis on safety.

He plans to develop a training and orientation manual for newly hired employees and reinvigorate many of the other programs in his arsenal. His department already offers health and safety training courses and materials, listed on the web at www.uoguelph.ca/ehs.

White completed his PhD in inorganic chemistry at Carleton in 1999. (He admits to feeling a twinge of envy when he visited the chemistry teaching labs in U of G's new science complex. "They're any undergraduate teacher's dream come true.")

While teaching and supervising labs at Carleton, he became interested in health and safety issues. leading to his appointment as EHS manager in 2001. That wasn't such a big leap to make, he says, given that the risks involved with the use of chemicals require a sound knowledge of safety principles and best

Slips, trips and falls are one thing, but quarantine? It was at Carleton that an employee in his department opened a package one day last summer to discover a quantity of unidentified red powder and needles taped inside the envelope. The find prompted an emergency call.

During the subsequent eighthour investigation, White and his co-workers were confined to their building. They were released only after they had taken decontamination showers and had their clothing confiscated (they went home in white jump suits - "triple extra large for guys like me," jokes White, who carries a linebacker's build on his 6'4" frame).

The suspect powder turned out to be nothing more lethal than cayenne pepper, sent by a disgruntled former student. Far from feeling put out in turn. White says he viewed the incident as a good first-hand look at emergency procedures in action. "It was a great health and safety exercise," he says.

White has provincial emergency management training and is involved in assessing U of G's needs related to the newly proposed City of Guelph hazardous materials team.

Search Committee Struck for AVP (Human Resources)

Candidate profile will be posted on U of G website for community input

SEARCH COMMITTEE has been established to select a new assistant vice-president (human resources) to succeed Vic Reimer, who is retiring after more than 25 years at U of G.

Chaired by Nancy Sullivan.

vice-president (finance and administration), the committee consists of provost and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso: Prof Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research); Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs); Carlton Gyles, interim dean of the Ontario Veterinary College; Patrick Case, director of the Human Rights and Equity Office; Bob Carter, executive director of Physical Resources; Lillian Wilson, manager of compensation and benefits in Human Resources: and Gavleen Gray of Computing and Communications Services, who is the staff representative on Senate. Kathy Virgin of the president's office will provide administrative support.

The committee will be assisted in its work by Laverne Smith of Laverne Smith & Associates Inc., an executive search firm that specializes in senior-level recruitment for the public and not-for-profit sectors.

"The committee's first task will be to develop the candidate profile for this key position," says Sullivan. "To do this, we will be seeking input from members of the University community, including the heads of U of G employee groups, VPAC and directors. Once completed, the candidate profile will be published on the U of G website, and individual members of the University can provide input as well.

Nominations and applications for the position may be sent in confidence to Laverne Smith & Associates Inc., 1 Yonge St., Suite 1801, Toronto, ON M5E 1W7, resumes@ lavernesmith.com. The search committee will begin considering candidates in late February.

Sullivan expresses gratitude to Reimer for his "significant contributions to the University as assistant VP for more than nine years and throughout his career at the University." A tribute to him will be held in the spring. She also thanks Brendan Soye for agreeing to continue as acting AVP (HR) until the position is

Sullivan adds that, before he officially retires, Reimer will take on the task of reviewing the University's pension governance structure and working with stakeholders and external consultants to help U of G develop a new governance structure for its three pension plans.



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Japanese Memorial Rituals Changing

Growing trend of having ashes scattered is nationwide symbol of transition in Japan's cultural practices, says anthropologist

BY RACHELLE COOPER

N CANADA, one of the biggest decisions people must make surrounding their own death is whether to be cremated or buried intact. But in Japan, where 99 per cent of the deceased are cremated when they die and it's illegal to bury a body intact without special permission in many cities, the new controversial consideration isn't about how to dispose of the body, but about where the ashes will go, says Prof. Satsuki Kawano, Sociology and Anthropology.

Kawano, who's been studying memorial rituals in Japan for the past four years, says the growing trend of having ashes scattered is a nationwide symbol of transition in the country's cultural practices.

"In Japan, it's customary to maintain a grave for multiple family members because it's a symbol of the family continuing," says Kawano.
"The scattering of ashes is a way of contesting that cultural practice. It's a declaration of a person's independence. It differs from past practices, where graves of the deceased were cared for by descendants."

When a movement called the Grave-Free Promotion Society started 14 years ago, the taboo on scattering a person's ashes in the hills or the sea began to be challenged. Kawano has interviewed some of the organization's 11,000 members to determine why they've chosen to break traditional Japanese customs.

"One answer I found is that it's about being in control of their own lives," she says. "Previously, adult children were responsible for conducting the rituals for their parents,



Prof. Satsuki Kawano says concerns about environmental damage and the high cost of burital rituals have prompted some Japanese people to challenge the taboo against scattering ashes.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

but the parents are now saying: 'We're not going to be dependent on you. We're going to make our own contracts and make sure they're carried out."

The decision is sometimes made on a purely financial basis, says Kawano. It's not unusual for a family to pay \$30,000 to purchase the plot for a family grave in Tokyo, and that doesn't include the \$100 yearly maintenance fee.

"A family grave has to be maintained eternally in theory, so buying it is not the last expense. Once you buy it, you have to have a successor, who's most likely to be the eldest son."

In addition to one-time and yearly fees, family members have to perform costly rituals, she says. The average Tokyo funeral costs about \$35,000, including temple fees, funeral company bills and gifts and refreshments for guests. And in the Buddhist faith, family members don't pay for just one service. There are several memorial services for each person that the Japanese feel a moral obligation to perform

whether they're religious or not.

"If your plot is located in a Buddhist temple compound, ancestor veneration rites occur many times: right after death and on the first, third, seventh, 13th, 17th, 23rd, 27th and either 33rd or 50th anniversary of the death," says Kawano.

Small wonder that scattering ashes, with its one-time fee of \$1,000, is growing in popularity.

"It's practical," says Kawano.
"Scattering also attracts people who like nature and don't like Buddhist rituals."

Demographic changes have also had a significant influence on memorial rituals, she says. "The birth rate is now 1.29, so you don't always have children who can take over the family grave."

In addition, the grave can't be shared among siblings. If it goes to the oldest son, the second son has to buy a new plot and start his own family grave. Among the Grave-Free Promotion Society members Kawano interviewed, many were second sons who didn't inherit a grave from their parents.

Visiting the family grave is an important moral act in Japan, so ash scatterers also have to face questions about where their family members will visit them, she says.

Society founder Mutsuhiko Yasuda told Kawano that accommodating the space for graves is causing environmental damage. Because of lack of space, large-scale cemeteries are now being developed on hill-sides, he said. To make the cemeteries accessible to elderly visitors, the natural environment has to be severely altered through paving and the use of pesticides.

"Yasuda has worked as an environmental activist and has a notion that cemeteries are destroying the mountains and the hills," says Kawano. "His organization is attracting people who have a sense of respect for nature."

According to a 1998 national survey, about 13 per cent of Japanese people want to have their ashes scattered when they die.

"The family grave is still the norm, but it's interesting that an alternative is now emerging," Kawano says.

New Organic Agriculture Major Set to Begin in Fall

Novel program will bring together faculty from across campus to explore the diverse biophysical and socio-economic dimensions of organic farming

BY ANDREW VOWLES

RGANICALLY GROWN products still occupy only one to two per cent of all products on grocery store shelves in Ontario and Canada, but growing consumer demand for organic products has prompted a new major in organic agriculture at U of G, set to begin this fall.

"The organic market has been increasing 15 to 20 per cent a year during the past decade to roughly \$1.3 billion today," says Prof. Ann Clark, Plant Agriculture, "but about 85 per cent of that produce is imported, indicating tremendous potential for local production of organic products."

Following the introduction of a single course in organic agriculture four years ago, the new major in the B.Sc.(Agr.) program is designed to teach students the principles underlying organic farming methods.

This novel program will bring together faculty from across campus to explore the diverse biophysical and socio-economic dimensions of organic farming, says Clark. The new program will include not just production agriculture but also marketing, rural community and social policy issues

"Because this is the first academic major in

organics in North America, we expect the program to be extremely attractive to a wide range of students," says Prof. Paul Voroney, Land Resource Science.

McGill University offers an ecological agriculture minor, and U of G's Collège d'Alfred offers organic agriculture specializations for French-speaking diploma students. One or more organic agriculture courses are offered in 15 of 25 surveyed North American universities, including eight in Canada.

The new major will include five core interdisciplinary courses covering everything from design of agricultural production systems to social issues in organic agriculture. It will include tutorials and an experiential education component with hands-on, problem-based work in the organic field. Faculty members from various departments and colleges will teach the courses.

Graduates may pursue a range of careers from retail, processing, farming and social policy to product development and research.

Ontario Agricultural College dean Craig Pearson notes that the research program of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food includes increasing funding for the organic sector.

Prof. Stew Hilts, chair of the Department of

Land Resource Science, adds: "If it's becoming vital to the consumer, we should be dealing with it here at the University of Guelph."

About 20 students are expected to enter the program each year eventually. Some 100 students have already taken that initial introductory course, begun in 2001.

"Organics is coming of age in Ontario, as reflected not simply in the growth in organic shelf space in mainstream as well as local outlets and the soaring popularity of farmers' markets, but also in demand for education and information," says Clark.

About 500 of Ontario's roughly 60,000 farms are certified as organic. Canada-wide, there are more than 3,100 organic farms, about 1.3 per cent of the total.

Clark says organic agriculture standards are still being refined. Farmers currently adhere to voluntary standards administered by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Organic production includes such principles as strategically designed crop rotations, tillage practices to control weeds, and use of compost and "green manures" such as red clover to be tilled into the soil as a natural fertiger. Organic farmers aim to use ecologically sound designs to promote healthy soils, crops and livestock, to avoid proliferation of pests

and diseases, and to reduce environmental contamination.

"Organic is not a guarantee that it's pesticide-free or GMO-free," says Clark, who studies managed grasslands and organic production systems. "Bather, the organic label is a 'process guarantee' that a production system excluding pesticides or genetically modified organisms has been followed, although contamination may still occur involuntarily."

Voroney studies soil nutrient cycling, including composting. He recently spent a sabbatical helping to start an organic farm, planting alfalfa, for example, to build soil fertility.

The current introductory course in organic agriculture was sparked after Les Eccles, a former student in Voroney's soil science class, circulated a request in the form of a petition signed by about 350 undergraduate and diploma students.

Faculty and students at U of G and the regional campuses are studying aspects of organic agriculture, including soils, field crops, farm practices, pest control (including biological control), livestock, grazing management, sustainable production and rural communities.

Risk of Drought in Northwest Underestimated

Guelph geographer's studies of tree rings point to lower water, electricity supplies in Columbia River Basin

BY RACHELLE COOPER

F LARGE AMERICAN CITIES like Seattle and Los Angeles continue to depend on the Columbia River system for most of their hydro-electricity, they could be left in the dark, says Prof. Ze'ev Gedalof, Geograpby. In a study published in the current issue of the Journal of the American Water Resources Association, he concludes that droughts recorded on the Columbia River system, the second-largest drainage basin in the United States, have been minor in the context of the past 250 years.

"It seems that the severe 'Dust Bowl' drought of the 1930s that inspired *The Grapes of Wrath* and prompted migrations of 400,000 people leaving the Great Plains was probably not the most severe drought on record," says Gedalof, lead author of the study.

"Based on our data and the current trend of increasing temperatures, we believe the future water supply in the northwest will be threatened again."

Because 87 per cent of the electricity made in Washington state is produced by hydroelectric facilities and some is exported to California, the brownouts that occur in Seattle will probably become more common if there isn't a decreased dependence on hydroelectricity, says



Prof. Ze'ev Gedalof demonstrates the technique he uses to obtain tree ring samples.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

He and his colleagues at the University of Washington and the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station looked at tree ring samples from 20 to 30 trees at 32 different sites along the Columbia River to reconstruct the stream flow in the river basin since 1750.

Looking at the width of the rings in the bark reveals details about climate and precipitation. Before this study, reliable data on water flow in the Columbia River system dated back only 70 years through dam records.

"The samples we take cause minimal damage to the tree," notes Gedalof. "Each core is three millimetres across and extends from the bark to the pith. The tree will normally grow over the resulting hole within a year."

The low-elevation trees that were sampled are highly sensitive to moisture, so during wet years, they grow wider growth rings, he says. The researchers also looked at samples of trees in high-elevation sites that exhibit the opposite relationship to drought. "Large winter snow accumulations will limit growth and cause narrow rings."

By analyzing tree rings from these disparate environments, Gedalof and his colleagues were able to get a good picture of both high- and low-river-flow years. They found that six severe multi-year droughts worse than anything on record occurred between 1750 and 1950.

"If we continue to manage the water system as we have over the last 50 years, we may not be prepared for the multi-year droughts that are in our future." Gedalof says.

In addition to supplying most of the state's electricity, the Columbia River Basin supports a range of human and natural interests, including agricultural irrigation and salmon runs. "It's the economic engine of the northwest," he says.

The study results show the need to decrease dependency on hydroelectricity from the Columbia River system because the demand is already greater than the supply, says Gedalof.

"We're building the rules for operating this system under a relatively benign flow regimen. There may be surprises around the corner."

The study also revealed that because of logging, more rain is reaching the Columbia River now than would have 70 or 100 years ago. Water that would have been used by trees for photosynthesis is now running off into the river system.

"Ironically, the damage done to old-growth forest trees by intensive logging may have helped to buffer the impacts of severe droughts on water resources," says Gedalof.

The study suggests that river flows are five to 10 per cent higher now than would have occurred under pristine forest conditions.

The Science of Tsunamis: Lessons Learned?

Retired prof says it's imperative that tomorrow's engineers have a chance to learn more about waves and how to mitigate their impact

BY ANDREW VOWLES

ROMPTED BY THE HAVOC tsunami in the Indian Ocean, a retired U of G engineering professor plans to draw on his water engineering experience, including principles he first explored as a graduate student more than 40 years ago, to help engineering students better understand water and wave action.

Prof. Bill James says it's imperative that tomorrow's engineers have a chance to learn more about waves, information that may allow them to design structures and procedures that could ultimately help save lives and coastal property and environments.

Working with three other members of the hydrotechnical division of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering, he is designing an optional curriculum module on water

waves to be made available to educators, including university engineering faculty. That module will include basic information on propagation and movement of waves when they reach land, as well as ways to mitigate their impact.

Despite the seeming complexity, he says waves are relatively easy to understand and interesting to model using readily available mathematics and computing tools.

"Available coastal planning and development tools in the public domain should be more widely known and used," says James, whose research in water resources engineering includes urban storm water management and flood protection. "Because of curriculum constraints, civil engineering professors don't routinely offer flood mapping of coastal surges."

Referring to pictures of the devastation left behind by the tsunami in almost a dozen countries in Asia and Africa, he says: "The images showed that the hydraulics of the on-shore waves is calculable, very like floods, and therefore predictable in an engineering design sense. Hydraulic computer modelling would have been useful — and cheap."

What was also evident to James was the effect of people's lack of information and understanding about the tsunami phenomenon as it unfolded. Many victims approached the shore after the first wave receded, only to be engulfed by the next surge.

"Few seemed to recognize that the preceding low water was an essential part of the advancing wave system and would necessarily be followed by a crest of at least equal amplitude. Folks should retreat, not explore the low water."

Incoming waves interact with water bouncing back from the shore to
create a more complex pattern,
called a partial clapotis, with water
becoming alternately deeper and
shallower and moving at varying
speeds toward or away from land.
Sometimes, and in some places,
greatest depth and velocity coincide,
sometimes not.

"You don't want to be where the water is deeper than you and velocity is at its maximum ebb out to sea. It is the phase lag between water velocity and water depth in these waves that

gives rise to the undertow at the beach fringe that washes victims out to sea or, conversely, deposits them at the inland end."

James says many people may have mistakenly clung to trees and structures to prevent being carried away.

"Evidently, unfettered animals that couldn't grab hold of obstructions suffered little or no deaths or injuries. Many people who were carried inland were able to scramble away during the inevitable slack water. But folks who held on against the flood may have been subsequently washed away when the flow they had resisted reversed, now at greater depths."

In the open ocean, the wave energy would have simply passed under a boat without incident, he says, moving a finger up and down to illustrate the elliptical motion of water at the surface. "Sitting it out in a boat beyond the breakers is an excellent strategy," says James, a longtime sailor and cottager on Georgian Bay.

He says media reports of a "wall" of water descending on the coast give an inaccurate picture of the nature and scope of the problem. A slow-motion aerial view would have shown that the greatest damage came from the powerful rhythmic pumping and flushing action of the

long-duration waves, activity that broke up buildings and infrastructure and pulled the debris out to sea.

He notes that the Indian Ocean experienced summer solstice spring tides Dec. 21. That means the ocean was probably higher than normal by Boxing Day. "Local sea levels may have been at an annual high."

James believes reconstruction could include means to evacuate people quickly and efficiently, including marking out escape routes and ensuring adequate signage.

"There's lots of software around that can be used for mapping tsunami water levels or surges in coastal areas and designing safe human escape routes," he says.

"There are too many poor people occupying dangerously low-lying lands, and some holiday hotels are cheaply built in flood-prone areas. Folks did not have or know of safe lines of retreat. Now, with the flood-prone areas cleared, is an excellent opportunity for implementing planning and development controls."

For his PhD completed in Scotland in 1965, James studied so-called "resonators," specially built structures designed to calm waves entering harbours. His results have been used in designing harbours and their breakwaters in Canada and abroad.

Focus on Internationalism

This semester, At Guelph is running a series of stories focusing on U of G's internationalism, highlighting the research, teaching/learning and outreach that Guelph's faculty, staff and students are participating in around the globe.

Anyone with suggestions for articles on this theme can contact Barbara Chance at Ext. 56580 or b.chance@ exec.uoguelph.ca.

Historically Significant

Specialist in Chinese women's history adds to global perspective in History Department

and brings new dimension to U of G's women's studies program

By Rachelle Cooper

EWLY APPOINTED history professor Norman Smith, the first faculty member at Guelph to have dedicated teaching responsibilities in the women's studies program, doesn't think it's unusual for a man to focus on women's studies.

"I think it's one of the most interesting fields of research today," says Smith, who joined the Department of History Jan. 1 and will dedicate 40 per cent of his teaching time to women's studies. "It's fascinating to watch how the study of women's experiences changes the way history is perceived.'

A specialist in Chinese history, he admits that, when he travels to China to do research, he gets unusual reactions when people learn what his field is. "And when I reveal that I'm actually studying Chinese women's history, they think I'm really insane," he laughs.

He first became interested in his area of research when he stumbled across a kind of writing from the south of China called "women's writing" or nüshu while working on his MA at the University of British Columbia.

"It's a form of writing invented by women for women to use to communicate with other women," he says. "It's incredible that such a form of writing once existed, but hardly anybody knows about it today.'

Once he finished his MA, Smith remained at UBC to complete a PhD. His dissertation focused on female Chinese writers in Manchuria during the Japanese occupation.

"At first, I just wanted to know how Chinese women experienced the occupation, but eventually I was able to bring to light a whole world of women's literature and feminist criticism.

Smith discovered a group of female Chinese writers who were able to critique colonial society during the occupation.

"Because colonial officials believed women were so useless that whatever they wrote was meaningless, these women were able to emerge as strong social critics.

In the last year of the occupation, the colonial officials realized what was going on right under their noses, and all but one of the seven writers Smith studied were punished. It was after liberation that the women really suffered the most.

"During the Communist regime, it was thought that anyone who could have had a successful career under the Japanese was a total traitor, so these women who built their careers from the ages of 15 to 25 spent more than 20 years in jail or at hard labour or being denounced as traitors."



Before arriving at Guelph, Smith spent two years at the University of Washington and Oxford University doing post-doctoral research on how feminist ideals played a role in the work of the seven Chinese writers he studied. He will publish his research later this year in a book to be called Wielding Pens as

Because he's spent the last few years writing articles and working on his book, Smith says he welcomes the renewed contact with students at U of G.

"They're so enthusiastic," he says. "I encourage interaction in my classes. I think it's essential. It not only keeps me on my toes but also encourages an active learning environment in the

This semester, Smith is teaching a third-year course called "Women's History in Asia" and a fourth-year seminar on "The Construct of Woman in Chinese Societies." In the fall, he will take on the introductory women's studies course, which has an enrolment of 400.

Prof. Dawn Cornelio, Languages and Literatures, co-ordinator of the women's studies program, says she's happy to see the University's commitment to the program that Smith's appointment represents.

'Having a dedicated faculty member will help increase our visibility, our viability and our ability to provide students with a cohesive and coherent women's studies program," she says.

And the appointment of Smith, in particular, bodes well for the future of the program, she adds. "He is a very charismatic instructor whose non-western focus will have a significant impact on the way women's studies is taught at Guelph.'

Prof. Terry Crowley, chair of the Department of History, says his department is "doubly delighted with Norman Smith's appointment because not only does he add to established strengths in social and women's history, but his East Asian specialty also forms an important part of the department's new global orientation and helps fulfil the University's international

Smith says he has travelled to China so many times for research and pleasure that he considers it his second home.

"I love it. If you have a good set of acquaintances in China, it's the best place in the world to live. And it has the best food in

Taking Mandarin classes at Simon Fraser University and UBC and immersing himself in the culture when he's in China have made him fluent in the language -- so much so that he has written several articles in Mandarin for Chinese publications and is working on two more.

Here in Canada, when he's not teaching, researching or writing about China, Smith is watching Asian movies.

"I'm addicted to Chinese movies. So rarely do good new Chinese movies make it here that I've also become addicted to the movies from Hong Kong in the '50s and '60s that are now on DVD. They're amazing."

Having lived in Vancouver for 20 years, Smith says he's been craving a move to a smaller city like Guelph. He arrived at the end of December and has since made it his mission to find good authentic Chinese food in the area.

Reading Week Talks to Focus on Assessing Teaching

and the Office of Open Learning sponsoring the McGraw-Hill Ryerson Conference on "Assessing Teaching in Higher Education: Practice, Problems and Progress" Feb. 21 and 22. It will feature national and international keynote speakers discussing the assessment and scholarship of teaching.

"The University of Guelph is com-

mitted to excellence in teaching, but as well as exceptional performance. how do we know whether we are achieving that goal?" says provost and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso. "In pursuit of research leadership, we have an extensive array of assessment techniques, metrics and progress indicators. The assessment of teaching lags behind and is less rigorous and precise and therefore less informative about problems

Mancuso says the conference will provide a unique opportunity for members of the University to share perspectives and reflect on what con-tial of our world-class faculty." stitutes effective teaching and how it can be recognized and encouraged.

"Through the discussion of best practices and innovative techniques, and by taking advantage of the observations of the excellent keynote

only to improve their own teaching but also to help make Guelph an environment that maximizes the poten-

Keynote speakers are Teresa Dawson, director of teaching and learning services at the University of Toronto at Scarborough; Mary Taylor Huber, a senior scholar at the Carvard University and Carleton University; Ron Smith, professor emeritus of education at Concordia University; and Marty Wall of the University

Cost of the conference is \$295, but U of G registrants are eligible for a special rate of \$125 until Jan. 31. To negie Foundation; Brian Little, who uoguelph.ca/mhrconference.



HARVARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS INAPPROPRIATE

Earlier this month, Harvard University president Lawrence Summers made some unfortunate remarks about women that are unbefitting the leader of one of the most eminent institutions of higher learning.

Summers reportedly claimed that women have not been as successful in fields related to math and science because they lack innate abilities. His comments were inappropriate, disappointing and, above all, absolutely incorrect.

Summers has apologized for his remarks, and although I don't wish to dwell on the absurdity of his claims, they have raised concerns on university campuses around the world — Guelph included — about the attitudes towards women in science, math and engineering, as well as their future prospects in these fields.

His comments have also tarnished the great strides universities such as Guelph have made in attracting and supporting outstanding female faculty.

For many years, Guelph has made a concerted effort to ensure that we meet our goals of employment equity. Since 2000, we have hired close to 200 new faculty members, and more than 42 per cent are women.

University-wide, nearly 40 per cent of our assistant professors and some 30 per cent of our associate professors are women. We are working diligently to cultivate their academic pursuits with the goal of increasing the number of female full professors on campus, which currently stands at 17 per cent.

As well, in contrast with Harvard, the percentage of our contractually limited and sessional faculty who are women is in line with our other professorial ranks, at 44 per cent and 41 per cent, respectively.

In our science programs, about 20 per cent of all professors are women — on par with the national average of women in these fields. In Canada, about 22 per cent of professionals working in science and engineering are women. In addition, three of the University's four vice-presidents, two of its four associate vice-presidents and three of its seven deans are women.

Not only have we boosted the number of female faculty across the disciplines, but we also support and encourage them to be role models and mentors for our many outstanding female graduate and undergraduate students. The University is proud of these achievements and will continue to step up its efforts to recruit, support and retain female faculty. Indeed, there is still much progress to be made.

Regrettably, Lawrence Summers's remarks show that misconceptions about women persist. The most effective way to correct the damage from such statements is to continue fashioning learning environments in which inclusiveness, sensitivity, mutual respect, and gender and racial equality thrive. These will always be central values at U of G.

Maureen Mancuso Provost and vice-president (academic)

RETROFIT WOULD REDUCE EMISSIONS, ENERGY COSTS

With the growing concern about the disastrous effects of global warming and the estimated 2,000 plus premature deaths caused by air pollution in Ontario alone, the University of Guelph has a duty as a community leader to take a stand on this issue.

The culprit behind these two problems is our inefficient use of energy. As the "moral conscience" of society, we must take a proactive and innovative approach to reducing the damaging emissions caused by this inefficient energy use.

Last year, the University took a small first step by instigating a retrofit of the Crop Science Building. It's time to step forward and expand the retrofit to include the whole campus.

Such a retrofit can not only reduce these emissions but also drastically cut our energy costs, saving us all money. Specifically, the retrofit would save the University at least \$1.6 million a year in energy costs. The costs of the retrofit can be completely covered by a loan that can be paid back with energy savings alone in six to nine years. In addition, as energy and natural gas costs continue to rise, so, too, do the benefits of a retrofit and the costs of insertion.

The University of Manitoba, which conducted a retrofit in 1999, estimated that it would save \$1.9 million a year. Due to higher energy prices, the retrofit savings have jumped to \$2.65 million a year!

Students and staff at U of G will also benefit. McMaster University, after conducting a similar energy retrofit through its campus renewal partnership, reported dramatic improvements in lighting, air quality and comfort.

If U of G truly wants to save money, improve comfort, be a good corporate environmental citizen and live up to its reputation as a community leader, why hasn't more action been taken?

UNIVERSITY COMMITTED TO ENERGY CONSERVATION

Editor's note: The following letter by Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration), is in response to a letter she received from Guelph Students for Environmental Change as well as to the letter printed above, which appeared earlier this month in the Ontarion, Guelph Mercury and Guelph Tribune.

Several initiatives are currently under way across campus that relate both to energy conservation and to ensuring that U of G is taking steps to constrain the effects of utility price

The Crop Science Building retrofit project was recently completed. We are now analyzing its effect and comparing the results to the energy-savings forecasts. From the University's perspective, this \$852,000 project constitutes more than "a small first step." It was a significant investment with substantial upfront capital costs.

As with any such large-scale project, it is anticipated that the upfront costs will be recovered over several years. We intend to allocate any net cash savings toward the repayment of these costs.

Projects like this can help us achieve our long-term energy goals. These include constraining inflationary increases to the utilities operating budget; improving the efficiency and quality of our buildings' lighting, heating and cooling systems; and reducing greenhouse gases.

This is not the only U of G initiative designed to reduce or constrain energy consumption. We have, for example, replaced the building automation systems campus-wide. This involved reprogramming the heat exchanger sequences, which saves on heating costs, reduces required steam production and allows us to optimize some of our other energy initiatives.

Two other innovative initiatives with a combined price tag of \$1.5 million are nearing completion — a boiler controls project that will help us burn gas more efficiently and a water treatment project that will reduce the consumption of salt, chemicals and water.

In addition, we plan to extend our new stack heat recovery system to service the planned extension to the MacKinnon Building. This will allow us to heat the 40,000-square-foot extension at no additional cost and without adversely affecting the environment. The new science complex was also designed to maximize energy efficiency.

And we are a few weeks away from completing a campus-wide tunnel steam trap survey to ensure the steam system distribution is as efficient as possible.

All these projects will have a positive effect on the environment and demonstrate the University's commitment to constantly monitoring and improving its energy use.

The Physical Resources Energy Committee continues to meet regularly. We have added two new members — the sustainability co-ordinator and a new energy consultant — to ensure that environmental concerns are adequately addressed.

The University believes there are a number of ways to approach energy conservation. We will carefully analyze the results of the Crop Science retrofit and determine the feasibility of other similar projects on campus, bearing in mind the very significant capital costs of a campus-wide project, the long payback period for this investment — usually about 10 years — and the numerous other pressing capital needs of the University related to our facilities.

We will continue with our long-standing practice of making changes progressively, focusing on areas most in need of improvement with regard to energy consumption. Ultimately, the goals of any energy conservation plan are to decrease consumption, improve efficiency and reduce negative environmental effects. We are committed to finding the best methods to achieve these goals.

Nancy Sullivan Vice-president (finance and administration)

A MILLION THANKS

My husband, Walter, and I would like to sincerely thank everyone who supported us during our recent ordeal. We were both overwhelmed by the number of cards, calls, e-mails and gifts. You have no idea how much it meant to both of us, and we will never forget it.

Kindness such as this never ceases to amaze me. It has truly touched my heart and that of my family, and for this, we are eternally grateful. A million thanks, and I hope I can personally thank all of you one day.

Toni Pellizzari, CBS dean's office



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore, to be held at the end of the semester. Anyone who submits the right answer by Jan. 31 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext.569B2. The following people correctly reported that the Jan. 12 photo was taken in the Common Room in East Residence: Wayne Aitken, Julie West, Nicole Shepard, John Vanmanen, Josh Dahaas and Sandra Ridler.

Annual Job Fair Feb. 2

HE 2005 University/College Job Fair runs Feb. 2 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at RIM Park in Waterloo. Students from all disciplines and in all semesters are invited to network with more than 150 North American employers.

The job fair is a collaborative effort of U of G, the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University and Conestoga College. Admis-

sion is free with student/alumni ID, and free shuttle buses to and from RIM Park will leave from the front of the University Centre.

The bus schedule, a list of participating organizations and an online employer guidebook are available at www.partners4employment.ca. A hard copy of the guidebook can be picked up at Career Services on Level 3 of the 10:

A Message From the Campus Accessibility Committee

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Biology by the Numbers

Mathematician combines father's science smarts with mother's love of storytelling

BY ANDREW VOWLES

T'S BEEN YEARS since he served as a homegrown porter during his biologist father's insect-hunting forays. These days, there's no heavy lifting — at least not field equipment. But Prof. Dan Ashlock, Mathematics and Statistics, still finds himself helping biologists, by off-loading and analyzing piles of data collected in various fields from genomics to animal behaviour to veterinary medicine.

Ashlock, who joined U of G last summer from Iowa State, is located among other physical scientists in the MacNaughton Building, but he expects to apply his math and computing smarts to research collaborations extending across campus to the College of Biological Science, the Ontario Agricultural College and the Ontario Veterinary College.

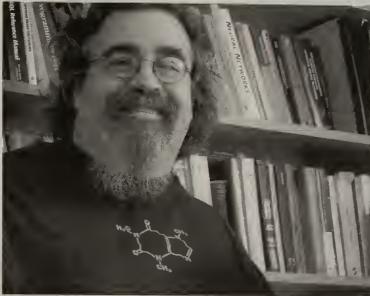
"A lot of the work I'm doing is helping biologists, and that's what Guelph hired me to do," says Ashlock, whose field of bioinformatics uses tools of mathematics and computing science to make sense of reams of raw data collected by biologists. "I really like working with people, beating other people's problems to death with a computer."

A perfect example was sparked in the fall during a meeting with a zoology professor and a computing scientist to discuss co-operating on studies of the zoologist's DNA bar-coding system used to identify organisms.

Just as the fall semester ended, Ashlock had received a pile of computer disks from a biomedical sciences researcher containing data about so-called natural killer cells involved in immune responses. He plans to study that gene expression information to help the OVC researcher learn more about how particular genes are switched on and off, affecting the body's reaction to viral or tumour cells.

Over in OAC's Department of Animal and Poultry Science, he's also been talking with a recently arrived animal behaviourist about developing a model of a virtual animal to explore emotion. Summarizing the purpose of that work, he says: "Do animals with emotion learn to survive better than those that don't?"

For these and other projects, Ashlock uses models and algorithms on the computer screen to study the natural world in three main ways.



Prof. Dan Ashlock, Mathematics and Statistics, whose shirt bears the molecular structure of one of his favourite chemical compounds, caffeine, says he's been interested in science "forever." РНОТОВУ МАКТІЙ SCHWALBE

Bioinformatics sees him churning through those piles of data to uncover patterns and trends. Evolutionary computation involves modelling natural systems, including writing genetic algorithms and programs. And computational biology means modelling the workings of evolution, speciation and ecology.

Scrolling through his website turns up numerous ways to apply math and computation to biology. Ashlock has written some 50 journal articles on everything from maize genomics to virtual robots. Last year, he published a book called Optimization and Modelling With Evolutionary Computation.

His site also yields a lighter side to what sounds like decidedly heavy material, from computer-generated fractals and graphics to electronic games. A fantasy gamer and referee, Ashlock designed his own gaming system called Realm of the Powers (he allows he was frustrated with the often-contradictory rules of Dungeons and Dragons).

Referring to the fantasy genre, he says: "Thinking up new kinds of magic is a great way to relieve stress." So is reading science fiction, he says, including books by Canadian authors Robert Sawyer and Tanya Huff.

He's also interested in debates over the possibility of extraterrestrial life and, closer to home, the evolution of Earth-boundlife—real life as opposed to the artificial entities scuttling across his computer screen. His own interest in the creation/evolution question was sparked at age 16 when he was forced to protect his father at a debate from someone armed with a baseball bat. "That's when I understood people really carred about this."

Ashlock allows that both science and storytelling run through his family lineage. He traces his own career path back to boyhood days

spent lugging equipment for his late father, a systematist whose fieldwork included insect-collecting trips. Peter Ashlock published a 1991 text-book called Principles of Systematic Zoology with evolutionary biologist Ernst Mayr.

"I've been interested in science forever," says Dan Ashlock. As a youngster, he collected bugs himself, built radios and experimented with a chemistry set. He'll never forget the day he used his father's chemistry textbook to make what he calls "a small amount" of nitroglycerine that ended up blowing off the rear end of the family garage.

As for the storytelling, he figures that comes from his mother, Virginia Harris Ashlock, whose graduate English thesis compared the works of author J.R.R. Tolkien with Icelandic sagas. She edited the *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*, a project based at the University of Kansas that has published some 50 volumes about invertebrate fossils.

Dan Ashlock studied math and computer science at the University of Kansas and completed a PhD in math at the California Institute of Technology in 1990.

Here at Guelph, he has taught introductory math and is now teaching advanced topics in optimization. He's won awards for his university teaching in the past and is also keen on sparking younger students' interest in math. Along with his wife, Wendy, a math graduate of the University of Chicago, he hopes to replicate math open houses run at local schools in lowa.

Pointing to his own web pages, he says puzzles and games have proved a useful tool for kindling math sparks in his own children: Charlotte, 16, Peter, 13, and Richard, 10.

Besides working with biologists, Ashlock has collaborated with physical scientists, particularly engineers. In one intriguing project with mechanical engineers at lowa State, he used computational fluid dynamics to help redesign a wood-burning stove coming into use in Nicaragua, where people may spend about one-quarter of their meagre income on firewood.

Referring to a 2002 article published in a special issue of the Journal of the International Energy Initiative on fuels and cooking systems, he says: "We used artificial neural networks to predict which design was better."



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NOMINATION DUE DATE: Friday 18 February 2005



LYNN RUMIG

Academic affairs assistant, OVC dean's office, employed at U of G since 1994

When Lynn Rumig says she enjoys kayaking, she means it. In fact, she's currently stocking up on extra-warm winter wear and planning her first wintertime paddle in the Maitland River near Goderich

"I grew up on the Maitland, so it will be especially fun," she says. "If it's a sunny day, I imagine it will be gorgeous."



Lynn Rumig

Rumig took up whitewater kayaking a few years ago to indulge her love of nature and her adventurous spirit.

You can get into so many little crannies that you can't with a boat," she says. "There aren't many people around, and the sound of the water is a different kind of quiet."

Rumig's kayaking adventures have brought her into close contact with wildlife on many occasions. Her favourite encounter was in New Brunswick, where she and her daughter sea kayaked with seals.

When she wants to experience the adventurous side of whitewater kayaking, she tries "surfing" - balancing her kayak in the whitewater dip in the bottom of the rapids. "You feel like you're going about 100 miles an hour, but really you're not moving. It's all about balance, and it's exhilarating."

Kayaking complements Rumig's general enthusiasm for the outdoors. When she's not kayaking on the weekends, she's usually camping, biking or hiking.

She nurtures her creative side through stained-glass art. She draws her own designs, crafting items such as lamps, suncatchers and mirrors. She often donates her work to support the fundraising efforts of local charities. In recognition of this and many other contributions she makes to her community, Rumig received the Susanne Sprowl Award from Steelworkers Local 4120 in 2003.

DEBORAH STACEY

Faculty member in the Department of Computing and Information Science since 1988

Away from the office, Prof. Deborah Stacey likes to spend her time doing "the predictable geek activities" often associated with her profession.

She's fascinated by technology and owns lots of gadgets. Her latest acquisitions are a digital Canon Rebel camera and a Sony DVD, Deborah Stacey which allow her to indulge in one



of her favourite pastimes: digital video and photography. She's currently making DVDs for everyone who attended her Grade 8 class reunion. "I went to a very old middle school - about 100 years old - and we were the last graduating class. One of my classmates decided to track people down, including our teacher, John Ross, and we all got together after 30 years. It was really great."

And then there's her hybrid car, a Toyota Prius, which has both an electric motor and a gas engine. "It runs on electricity all the time, and the gas engine kicks in when you need it," she says. "The gas engine even charges the electric battery so you never have to plug it

Stacey was attracted to the hybrid car by its low emissions, good speed and high fuel efficiency, which she can attest to. She keeps a careful log of when she puts in gas and how many kilometres she gets to the litre

"I've done this with every car I've owned," she says. Right now, in the middle of winter, I can go about 100 kilometres on 4.6 litres."

The car is also completely digital. "It has so many gadgets and displays. I love that. What can I say? I'm a computer scientist."

Stacey does have other interests that are anything but stereotypical or common. She keeps aquariums of fresh-water tropical fish and African cichlids; is a licensed pilot (she can fly C-152, C-172 and C-172RG aircraft) and a certified open-water scuba diver; and enjoys travelling, downhill skiing, tennis and squash.

XIAO WANG

MA candidate, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

When he arrived in Guelph from Shanghai two years ago, Xiao Wang was determined to learn both inside the classroom and out. He wanted to "really get to know society," he says. And he's doing just that, through both his academic and extracurricular pur-



Xiao Wang

On the academic side, he's doing research on how different cul-

tural experiences shape an individual's identity. Outside the classroom, he's putting theory into action, participating in a range of activities that he not only enjoys but can also use as a source of data for his research.

Since last May, Wang has been involved in the campus Toastmasters Club, which aims to build participants' confidence in public speaking. Club members meet Wednesdays at 7:15 a.m. in Johnston Hall, making speeches and providing encouragement to each other.

He also volunteers with the Best Buddies program, spending time with a "buddy" who has a developmental disability, taking strolls around campus or talking over the phone. He hopes the experience is helping his buddy, but says it has definitely helped him to "take a long breath and realize the ordinary beauty of life" in his new friend.

And for an evening each week, Wang helps out at CFRU 93.3 as the radio deejay of Chinese Show Box. Guests on his talk show have included professors, volunteers, recent graduates and candidates for student office. "I like to interview people," he says.

Last year, Wang was awarded U of G's annual Student Rookie Involvement Award for his communitybuilding work. Receiving the award, he says, was a "really touching moment.'

Palestinian Election Observers Face Unique Challenges

Continued from page 1

skills and his familiarity with elections as a political scientist are what earned him a place in the Canadian delegation out of a pool of some 2,000 applicants.

He says he was impressed to note the number of observers who were graduates of Guelph's political science and international development programs. "I think it's evidence of the international focus of the University," he says.

The grads included Adrian Walraven of the Eastern European division of the Canadian International Development Agency; Department of Foreign Affairs political officer Curtis Peters and assignment officer Charlene Budnisky; and Jason Hollman, first secretary of the Canadian Embassy in Kiev. Other former Guelph political science students participating were Mick Wicklum, Orest Zakydalsky and Leanne MacDougall.

Eidlin notes that all of the observers "had the feeling of witnessing a really historic event."

While the political scientist was returning to Canada, Christian was preparing for his trip to the Middle East. He was one of only 20 Canadian observers keeping close watch over the Jan. 9 election to select the new president of the Palestinian Authority following the November death of Yasser Arafat.

Christian received two full days of training before travelling to Ramallah, 10 miles north of Jerusa-

lem, in central Palestine. The observers were given vests that clearly identified their role, cellphones and medical kits, as well as drivers and Arabic-speaking translators.

His duties were similar to Eidlin's, but he faced some unique challenges.

*There's an army of occupation there, namely the Israeli army, and there are checkpoints and roadblocks and all sorts of things that are barriers to movement," says Christian. "You can't just look at a road and assume it's passable. There might be stone blocks or a mound of earth on it. We had to make sure we could actually get to the villages where we were supposed to monitor the polling stations."

This was done by surveying the area in advance with the driver and translator to ensure they could locate the polls. This wasn't a simple task because places aren't clearly marked, especially in rural or remote areas, he says. Next, they had to figure out alternative routes should a road become blocked.

In this election, safety was a big issue, especially for those serving and voting in Gaza, an area known to experience bombings and gunfire, says Christian. Although no one would have been trying to shoot election observers, there could have been collateral damage, he says.

One of the things he enjoyed most about his experience in the Middle East was meeting the people of Palestine and talking about their concerns and expectations for the election.

Christian notes that, although Arafat was charismatic and loved by his people, Israel often refused to negotiate with him because he wasn't an elected leader. The same can't be said for the new president.

"Mahmoud Abbas is as democratically elected as Paul Martin, and this was the freest and fairest election that has ever been held in the Arab world. He has as much legitimacy and as much authority as any other head of

Christian says he's proud to have been part of an election that he hopes will be a new beginning for peace in the Middle Fast.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Large 1940s solid oak office desk, 34 by 60 inches, six drawers, pullout keyboard shelf, excellent condition, 821-2493

Ikea bunk beds, L-shaped configuration to fit into corner, mattresses included, excellent condition; Moulinex convection oven; three sets of queen-size waterbed sheets; woman's full-length down coat with hood, blue/grey, size 10, 837-3809

New HP Photosmart M307 digital camera. 3.2 MP, 15X zoom, Jan, Ext. 58180 or jbrazolo@uoguelph.ca.

Full-size piano, delivery can be arranged, willing to donate to service or charitable group, 823-8517.

1998 GMC Sierra 5.7L truck, Z71 extended cab with trailer package, red/burgundy, dual battery, eight cylinders, safety available, used-car package available, 211,000 km, Brian, 846-0475.

Apartment-size washer and dryer, Three-bedroom townhouse, newly 837-7202 after 4 p.m.

1994 Diesel VW Jetta, excellent condition, great mileage, well-maintained, black/eggplant with tan interior, 240,000 km, certified, Wendy or Dave, 821-7828.

1995 Plymouth Voyager, red, excellent condition, new starter, brakes and tires, air, auto locks, AM/FM cassette, 127,000 km, well-maintained, certified, e-tested; two matching twin bed frames with maple headboards; almond electric stove, Julie, Ext. 54184 or jaudet@ uoguelph.ca.

Four-bedroom split-level house with country-size lot on Mayfield near Stone and Gordon, gas heat, central air, numerous upgrades, tastefully decorated, 821-5206.

Three-bedroom sidesplit in west end on 50-foot lot, upgraded floors, central air, large deck, landscaped, Ext. 54362, 837-9747 or jifergus@ uoguelph.ca.

2000 VW Jetta TDI, automatic, loaded, 140,000 km, 829-2561 or mlance@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom townhouse in Westminster Woods, three baths, finished basement with walkout to yard and trails, central air, Ext. 52622, 827-6169 or heberl@ uoguelph.ca.

FOR RENT

Two bedrooms in new house, bright and spacious, close to bus stop and campus, laundry, parking, nonsmokers, no pets, females preferred, available Feb. 1, \$450 a month per room inclusive, 519-993-1109.

Two-bedroom Southampton, sleeps four, fourpiece bath, fireplace, deck, gas barbecue, available July 2 to 16 and Aug. 6 to 20, \$800 a week, minimum two-week rental, 824-7969.

renovated, five appliances, 21/2 baths, two parking spots, close to University and Stone Road Mall, details at www.uoguelph.ca/~jrvincen, 831-

Two-bedroom house on Aberdeen Street, single driveway with carport, fenced yard, walking distance to downtown, available Feb. 1, \$1,100 a month plus utilities, 766-1452 or amykoebel@rogers.com.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, walking distance to subway and shops, short-term rental; furnished twobedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, available weekly or monthly, Nicole, 836-6745 or fnmoll@webty.net.

Three-bedroom house, three baths, main-floor family room, perennial gardens, double garage, central air, backs on to conservation and walking trails, 15 minutes from University, reasonable rent in exchange for care of two cats, available mid-August to mid-December 2005, Melody, Ext. 54337, 836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Fully equipped small cottage on Crystal Beach, excellent winter rates, weekenders welcome, Bob, Ext.

Luxury cottage on the southwest coast of Ireland, Ring of Kerry,

WANTED

The Trillium Childhood Cancer Support Centre needs full-time paid summer staff for two overnight resicamps, camptrillium.com for information, send résumé to kellevo@camp trillium.com.

Recent BA/B.Sc. grad seeking employment as lab assistant in biology, chemistry or agricultural discipline, extremely flexible, James, 836-8510 or tygertygers@rogers.com.

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Free to good home: Hammond Phoenix double manual organ, apartment-size, good working order, many added features, Caitrin, Ext. 54134 Tuesday to Friday from 8:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m.

Full-time babysitter, more than 20 years' experience, Rose, 837-9037.

Lessons in saxophone, clarinet and flute by sessional music instructor, Andy, 748-2882.



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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

The next dinner theatre production by Theatre in the Trees is A Single Thing in Common by William F. Brown. Directed by John Snowdon, the play opens Feb. 5 and runs Saturdays until April 30. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$53. To order tickets, call Ext. \$4110.

The Arboretum's children's theatre program presents Creole Drummatix, an ensemble of percussionists from Ballet Creole, Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Arboretum and Simply Wonderful.

"Growing Perennials From Seed" is the topic of a workshop to be led by Arboretum gardener Lenore Ross Feb. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$40. Registration and payment are required by Feb. 3.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre hosts two artist's talks Jan. 31, with Michael Belmore speaking at 11:30 a.m. and Mary Anne Barkhouse at 2:30 p.m. Barkhouse will also give a talk Feb. 2 at 11:30 a.m. when she unveils her silver commission for the art centre's collection.

The art centre's brown bag lunch series continues Feb. 1 at noon with Guelph artist Lois Betteridge discussing"In Service," an exhibition of contemporary Canadian silver.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's noon-hour concert series presents "North America in Pictures, Poetry and Piano" with Lister Sinclair, Gloria Saarinen and Ted Harrison Jan. 27 in MacKinnon 107. The series continues Feb. 3 with Prof. Jim Harley on piano and Feb. 10 with the Recorde Ensemble. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

FILM

The McLaughlin Library and the Central Student Association present a weekly documentary series, showcasing films focusing on political, social, economic and environmental issues. The free series runs in Thornbrough 1307 at 7:15 p.m. and features Passion of Maria Elena Feb. 2 and Ropa Americana, The Great British Job Takeaway and Cheated of Childhood Feb. 9.

U of G's free international film series, "Beyond Hollywood," continues this semester with *The Son of the Bride*, directed by Juan Jose Campenella of Argentina, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. in McLaughlin 384. Prof. Martha Nandorfy, English and Theatre Studies, will introduce the film at 6:45 p.m.

LECTURES

The East Europe and Russia Project presents Nikolay Smirnov, consul general of the Russian Federation, discussing "Where Is Russia Going?" Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 116.

The School of Fine Art and Music's visiting artist and speaker series presents Roger Bywater, co-owner and curator of Goodwater Gallery in Toronto, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 114.

Kim Anderson, a Cree/Métis writer and educator who is an adjunct faculty member in the College of Arts, presents "Telling Aboriginal Women's Stories" Feb. 10 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 307. The talk is sponsored by the women's studies program and the dean of arts.

NOTICES

Researchers in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition are looking for people to participate in a study of families that have emigrated from Jamaica to Canada and how they have adjusted to the cross-cultural relocation. If you are over 18 and the child of parents who emigrated from Jamaica and are interested in participating, contact Geoff Navara at gnavara@uoguelph.ca or Ext. 56325. Participants will be paid \$20.

Architect Paul Shepheard's book The Cultivated Wilderness: Or, What Is Landscape? is the inspiration for an environmental art project involving first-year landscape architect students. Based on concepts from the book, they are designing and building art installations at eight sites around the Landscape Architecture Building. Unveiling of the exhibit begins lan. 31 at 9 a.m. The works can be viewed until Feb. 5.

The OVC Bovine Club is holding a barbecue Feb. 3 at 5:30 p.m. in the OVC cafeteria, with all proceeds going to the Guelph Food Bank. A talk by B.C. veterinarian Martin

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Darrow will follow at 6:30 p.m. in OVC 1714. Cost is \$6. For tickets, e-mail to ahaight@ovc.uoguelph.ca.

The Multi-Faith Resource Team is sponsoring an eight-session program on Buddhism starting Feb. 1 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 553. To register, send e-mail to harshaprabha@ gbstephen.com. The team is also sponsoring a meditation group Thursdays at noon, a women's spirituality group Fridays at noon and a group focusing on spirituality and work Fridays at 8 a.m., all in Raithby 100. For details, contact Lucy Reid at Ext. 52390 or Ireid@uoguelph.ca.

SEMINARS

Next up in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series is Hamed Ghanei discussing "Characterization of MsbA, a Putative ABC Transporter Involved in Transport of Lipid A Across the Cytoplasmic Membrane in Pseudomonas aeruginosa" Jan. 28. On Feb. 4, Ben Strub explores the "Characterization of Utp8p-Mediated Nuclear Export of tRNA in Saccharomyces cerevisiae." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

"Integration of Accreditation, Licensing and Inspection in Laboratory Regulatory Programs" is the topic of John Lynch, director of the lab services branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Jan. 28. On Feb. 4, Dante Zarlenga of the USDA's Bovine Functional Genomics Laboratory explains "Underestimated Complexities of Developing Parasite Vaccines." On Feb. 11. Valeria Parreira of the Department of Pathobiology describes "Autotransporter Protein of Avian E. coli." The talks begin at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

The Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences (HBNS) presents Kate Shoveller, a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, dis-"Sulphur Amino Acid cussing Metabolism in Parenterally and Enterally Fed Neonatal Piglets: The Effects of Splanchnic Metabolism" Ian. 31. On Feb. 7, the topic is "What the Neurons Do and What the Animal Does" with Ally Webb, a visiting faculty member in HBNS from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne. The seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Department of Physics seminar series continues Feb. I with Robert Hill of the University of Waterloo explaining "Thermal Conductivity: An Arcane Technique for Exploring Unconventional Superconductors" and Feb. 8 with Prof. Jim Hunt discussing "The Sector." The seminars are at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 101.

The Cognitive Science Group's seminar series continues Feb. 2 with Zoe Ritzos discussing "Lapse and Relapse in Drug Addiction" and Feb. 9 with Mark Fenske of Harvard Medical School explaining "Affective and Social-Emotional Consequences of Visual-Selective Attention." The talks begin at 3:30 p.m. in Mark Lingon 232.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services hosts a Design Café Feb. 11 on "Learning Objects: Build or Borrow?" Instructors who have developed specific media-based course components to address identified teaching challenges will demonstrate and discuss their work. Online registration for all TSS workshops is through the website www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

THEATRE

U of G students present Eve Ensler's The Vagina Monologues Feb. 3 to 5 to raise awareness and funds for local organizations working to end violence against women and girls. The show runs nightly at 8 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. Proceeds will go to the Wellness Centre's SAFE program, the Women's Resource Centre and Marianne's Place. Tickets are \$10 and are available from the Central Student Association, the Wellness Centre or at the door.

The drama program presents two student-written plays in February, both beginning at 8 p.m. in Lower Massey Hall. Joemosomo by Christina Nardiello runs Feb. 10 to 12, and I Really Know You by Matt Adams runs Feb. 16 and 17. Admission is \$5.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of PhD candidate Cheryl Quinton, Animal and Poultry Science, is Feb. 10 at 9 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "Genetic Improvement of Atlantic Salmon for New Brunswick Aquaculture." The adviser is Prof. Ian McMillan.

The final examination of PhD candidate Alan Belk, Philosophy, is Feb. 10 at 1 p.m. in MacKinnon 314. The thesis is "The Semantic View of Scientific Theories: An Alternative to Realism/ Instrumentalism." The advicer is Prof. Don Dedrick.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Roots & Shoots Speaker Series continues Feb. 3 with Terry MacIntosh, a doctor of naturopathic medicine and co-founder of SHIFT, an organization dedicated to promoting clean air strategies. He will discuss "New Directions in Transportation" at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 122 Harris St. Admission is free.

The Perimeter Institute presents a public lecture on "The Black Hole Wars" with Leonard Susskind of Stanford University Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. at Waterloo Collegiate Institute, 300 Hazel St., Waterloo. Admission is free, but tickets are required and can be reserved online at www. perimeterinstitute.ca or by calling 519-883-4480.

The BreastStrokes Dragonboat team hosts the Bourbon Street Ball, its fourth annual fundraiser dance, Feb. 26 at 9 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. The Royal City Big Band will perform. The evening will include a free dance lesson at 8 p.m., a silent auction and costume prizes. Cost is \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. For more information, call Sylvia Willms at Ext. 53350.

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis presents *The Vagina Monologues* Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The 10th annual Winterfest at Exhibition Park runs Feb. 6 from 1 to 4 p.m. The afternoon will include skating, games, hot chocolate and sleigh rides. All proceeds go to the Guelph Food Bank.

The Guelph Little Theatre production of *Shivaree* by William Mastrosimone opens Feb. 10 and runs Thursdays to Saturdays until Feb. 26. For tickets, call 821-0270.

Members of the Guelph Guild of Handweavers and Spinners meet once a month at Westwood United Church, 577 Willow Rd. The next meeting for weavers is Feb. 2; spinners will meet Feb. 9. Both sessions begin at 7:30 p.m.

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INSIDE: BRINGING THE WORLD TO GUELPH • WHERE RACE DOES NOT MATTER • GOT A BRIGHT IDEA?



Keeping Up With the Kids

For preschoolers such as these children at the U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre, life may be a blur of activity, but Prof. John Dwyer, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, wants to learn more about what hinders children's physical activity as they age and how to keep them active. See story on page 12.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

U of G Discusses Adoption of Integrated Planning Model

Making Change document opens door to making choices

BY MARY DICKIESON

ow SHOULD the University of Guelph develop over the next several years to serve its core mission? Who and what do we need to get there? And how will we pay for

We should answer those questions as a University community, says provost and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso. She's leading the effort to establish an integrated planning process at U of G that would blend University-wide and unit-specific planning efforts and synchronize them with the budgeting process.

"Our goals are to work within a

multi-year time frame and systematize our planning efforts into a well-defined, repeatable procedure that ensures a match between budgets and objectives, between administrative structures and the academic enterprise, between accountability and results," she says. "Integrated planning is a way to further enhance the ability of the University to confront and control its future."

Mancuso notes that the Rae report recommends that universities be required to submit multi-year plans to the government. "If we pursue integrated planning, we would be in a position to meet this multi-year requirement," she says.

There's no denying that U of G

Town Hall Meeting Set

RESIDENT Alastair Summerlee will host a town hall meeting to discuss planning for the University's preliminary budget Feb. 16 from noon to 1 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Following up on his "From the President" column in the Jan. 26 issue of Ar Guelph, he will discuss the budget challenge that lie ahead for 2005/2006 and their implications for the University community.

owes its current status as one of the country's top comprehensive universities to good academic and administrative planning. Mancuso says a good example of this success is the strategic multi-year effort mounted to respond to the double cohort — an effort by the whole University that has drawn praise both from within and outside the university sector.

"But we can't rest on our laurels," she says, and points to current issues such as the Ontario government's tuition freeze and its possible withdrawal from matching infrastructure programs as issues that may prove just as challenging as the double cohort. U of G must prepare for both the predictable trends and uncertain commitments that lie ahead to increase flexibility and reduce vulnerability, she says.

Last fall, president Alastair Summerlee presented a brief to the Senate Committee on University Planning that documented the need for U of G to move from "making change" to "making choices." He de-

Continued on page 14

Rae Report Calls for More Money

Summerlee lauds former premier's recommendations

BY LORI BONA HUNT

ONTARIO MUST INCREASE base funding at its universities and colleges by at least \$1.5 billion by 2007/2008 to maintain quality and improve accessibility, and must commit an additional \$300 million to overhaul the student assistance program, according to a report released by former premier Bob Rae.

Rae's long-awaited review of post-secondary education, released Feb. 7, calls for the government to commit to increased multi-year funding for all students and to restore per-student funding to levels comparable with those of Canada's other nine provinces and, ultimately, with peer institutions throughout North America.

It also proposes introducing grants for students with the greatest financial need. Other priorities include enhancing the undergraduate experience and doubling graduate student enrolment by 2013. "This is a very welcome report and one that is critical to the future of education in Ontario," says president Alastair Summerlee. "Bob Rae has provided the province with excellent advice for making substantive, long-term and sustainable improvements to the post-secondary system, including increased investments to enhance accessibility to quality teaching and research programs."

Summerlee also commended Rae for the "incredible consultation process" that went into producing the report. Rae, along with a seven-panel advisory panel, was appointed to lead the comprehensive review last spring by Mary Anne Chambers, minister of training, colleges and universities.

"He took this responsibility very seriously and worked tirelessly," Summerlee says.

Rae met with university and Continued on page 14

Winegard Among Honorary Degree Recipients During Winter Convocation

University to award more than 800 degrees and diplomas

ORMER U OF G PRESIDENT Bill Winegard will be one of three distinguished Canadians to receive an honorary degree during four winter convocation ceremonies Feb. 23 and 24 in the Gryphon Dome. The other recipients are philosopher Lorraine Code and social scientist Gerald Helleiner.

In addition, U of G will award more than 800 degrees and diplomas and bestow University professor emeritus status on retired professors Chris Gray, Physics, and Louis Christofides, Economics.

Convocation begins Feb. 23 at 10 a.m. with the College of Arts ceremony. Graduates will be addressed by Code, the best-known feminis philosopher in Canada and the first woman to hold the position of Distinguished Research Professor at York University. A highly esteemed

graduate of the Guelph-McMaster (now Guelph-McMaster-Wilfrid Laurier) PhD program, she will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree.

Gray will address graduands of the College of Physical and Engineering Science at the 2:30 p.m. ceremony. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1990 for his work on the theory of liquids and wrote a paper that was deemed one of the most memorable contributions in the 60-year history of the American Journal of Physics. He retired in 2003.

Convocation will continue Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. for the College of Biological Science with an address by Winegard, who will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. During his tenure at Guelph from 1967 to

Continued on page 5

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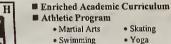
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Awards Recognize Faculty, **Librarians for Commitment**

Thirty-nine honoured for contributions to teaching, research, service

OF G HAS ANNOUNCED the recipients of this year's Distinguished Professor and Librarian Awards. They are 36 faculty members and three librarians.

The biennial awards recognize faculty and librarians who have consistently demonstrated a commitment to teaching, research or service or a combination of the three. Overall career contributions are also

Nominees for the awards are discussed at deans' councils and in department, college and library tenure and promotion committees and later by the provost and president.

This peer process input adds to the significance of the awards, reinforcing the high value placed by peers and colleagues on the contributions of the award recipients," says president Alastair Summerlee.

"It is a critically important factor informing my selection of award recipients, and I offer my congratulations to each of them. The University takes great pride in each of this year's distinguished professors and librarians, and I know that, collectively, they are representative of the overall high quality of the entire academic community.

This year's award recipients are: TIBRARIANS:

Jane Burpee, manager of reference and information literacy; Robin Bergart, academic liaison librarian; and Gohar Ashoughian, manager of the University of Guelph-Humber Learning Commons.

College of Arts: Elizabeth Ewan, History; FASTWÜRMS, Fine Art and Music; Daniel Fischlin and Thomas King, English and Theatre Studies; Jeff Mitscherling, Philosophy; and Dana Paramskas, Languages and Literatures.

College of Biological Science: Bill Bettger, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences; Teri Crease, Integrative Biology; Alison Duncan, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences; and Brian Husband and Denis Lynn, Integrative Biology.

College of Physical and Engineering Science: Heinz Bauschke and Pal Fisher, Mathematics and Statistics; Aziz Houmam, Chemistry; Bernie

Nickel and Joanne O'Meara, Physics; Yang Xiang, Computing and Information Science: and Simon Yang, Engineering.

College of Social and Applied Human Sciences: Mary Ann Evans, Psychology; Bill Frisbee, Marketing and Consumer Studies; Michael Hoy, Economics; Sally Humphries, Sociology and Anthropology; Ray Kostaschuk, Geography; Troy Rid-dell, Political Science; Geoff Smith, Hospitality and Tourism Management; and Jean Turner, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition.

Ontario Agricultural College: Milena Corredig, Animal and Poultry Science; John Cranfield, Agricultural Economics and Business; Stew Hilts, Land Resource Science; Julang Li. Animal and Poultry Science; Maurice Nelischer, Environmental Design and Rural Development; and Claudia Wagner-Riddle, Land Resource Science.

Ontario Veterinary College: Cate Dewey, Population Medicine; Carlton Gyles, Pathobiology; John Leatherland, Biomedical Sciences; and Scott Weese, Clinical Studies.

Town-and-Gown Symposium Set

HE UNIVERSITY and the City of Guelph are holding town-and-gown symposium Feb. 24 and 25 in Rozanski Hall as a way to build positive relationships between students and the community.

Keynote speaker at the symposium, which is titled "On Common Ground: Enhancing Communities Together," is president Alastair Summerlee. He will discuss students and community life at the opening session Feb. 24 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. This talk is free and open to the

"The goal is to share perspectives on students and community life. ranging from the impact of students in the community to student volunteer involvement to community relationships and ways of building stronger communities together, says Kathryn Hofer, U of G's neighbourhood relations co-ordinator.

On Feb. 25, a full-day session runs from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with topics to include downtown collaborations, off-campus services provided by students, perspectives on student tenancy, neighbourhood relations and community acceptance. Registration is required.

Cost is \$25 for students, \$60 for the general public and \$90 for university/college/government or professional representatives. Registration closes Feb. 14 at 4:30 p.m. Full details are at www.studentlife. uoguelph.ca/neighbourhood.

Campus Marks Black History Month

HISTORY LACK HISTORY MONTH
celebrations at the University continue through mid-March with a range of events and activities.

On Feb. 11, the C.J. Munford Centre hosts a discussion of "HIV/AIDS in the Black Community and We're Not Just Talking About the Developing World" at 7 p.m. in Room 054 of the MacKinnon Build-

The Munford Centre is also hosting a film/video series beginning Feb.

MONTH 17 at 7 p.m. (location to be announced). This is the first of three planned film nights exploring issues of racism, multiculturalism and Canadian history from the perspective of the "other." Screenings will be accompanied by photo exhibits by

On March 3 and 4, "Fiesta Africaribena: A Celebration of Black History Throughout the Diaspora" takes place in the University Centre courtyard and Peter Clark Hall. This rican Students of Guelph, the Latino Cultural Society, the West Indian Students Association and the Munford Centre.

On March 10, a panel of young black professionals will discuss how they have overcome barriers and found success in "We Did It Our Way: Rising Stars in the Black Community" at 7 p.m. (location TBA).

For more information, contact the Munford Centre at Ext. 56911.

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appointment

PRESIDENT SEEKS NOMINEES FOR ANNUAL STAFF AWARDS

President Alastair Summerlee is calling for nominations for the President's Awards for Exemplary Staff Service. The awards recognize employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and/or who have made significant contributions to the University community beyond what is expected of their position. All non-academic fulland part-time U of G staff who have been employed for at least two years are eligible for the award. The nomination deadline is May 31. For full details, visit www.uoguelph.ca/ president/exemplaryservice.shtml. A hard copy of the nomination package is available from the President's Office on Level 4 of the University Centre.

CBS CALLS FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ASSOCIATE DEAN

The College of Biological Science is seeking nominations and applications for the position of associate dean for the B.Sc. program. The initial appointment will be for a three-year term with 60-per-cent release time from the faculty member's home position. The associate dean will chair the B.Sc. program committee and be a member of all its subcommittees. The ideal candidate will hold a tenured faculty appointment in one of the departments in the B.Sc. program. Nominations and applications should include a statement of interest, CV and names of three referees and must be submitted by Feb. 21 to Prof. Jacqueline Murray, chair of the selection committee, c/o the CBS dean's office.

CONFERENCE TO EXPLORE ASSESSMENT OF TEACHING

Teaching Support Services and the Office of Open Learning are sponsoring the McGraw-Hill Ryerson Conference on "Assessing Teaching in Higher Education: Practice, Problems and Progress" Feb. 21 and 22. Keynote speakers are Teresa Dawson of the University of Toronto at Scarborough, Mary Taylor Huber of the Carnegie Foundation, Brian Little of Harvard and Carleton universities, Ron Smith of Concordia University and Marty Wall of the University of Toronto. Pre-conference workshops will be held Feb. 20. For complete details and to register, visit www. open.uoguelph.ca/mhrconference.

OAC LECTURE TO FOCUS ON ONTARIO'S GREENBELT

OAC's public lecture series presents Prof. Stew Hilts, chair of the Department of Land Resource Science, and Bob Bedggood, chair of the Agricultural Adaptation Council, discussing "Ontario's Greenbelt: A Farm Perspective" Feb. 9 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 1714 of OVC.

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE

Occupational Health Services will hold a Blood Pressure Clinic Day for U of G employees Feb. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the foyer of the University Centre. Come and have your blood pressure checked, ask questions and pick up information on getting "heart smart."

A Critical Success

Renowned journalist joins U of G as University research professor in art criticism



Prof. Robert Enright will spend winter semesters teaching in the MFA program.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

BY RACHELLE COOPER

NE OF CANADA'S best-known cultural journalists has joined U of G's fine art faculty. Robert Enright, editor-ar-large of Border Crossings magazine, is a new University research professor in art criticism.

Enright, who spent 2S years as an art critic for CBC and regularly contributes to the Globe and Mail and international art magazines Art News, Modern Painters and Art Review, will spend winter semesters teaching in the MFA program.

"I'm enormously humbled and happy to be here," says Enright, who will spend the rest of the year living in Winnipeg with his partner, writer Meeka Walsh, who edits Border Crossings. "There's no better job for me than this one. I'm entranced by the idea of intellectual exchange."

Enright's relationship with the School of Fine Art and Music (SOFAM) began three years ago when he was invited to give a lecture on American contemporary and realist painter Eric Fischl. Enright is the author of Eric Fischl: 1970-2000 and has contributed to several other books on artists, including Tony Tascona: Resonance and Don Reichert: A Life in Work.

During his visit to Guelph, Enright met with students in the MFA program and was impressed by their work and the program.

"The magazine thrives on young artists, so I was delighted to visit and see the work of 10 students. It was then that we initiated the possibility of coming back at some point."

Enright arrived on campus in

early January and is focusing on discussing contemporary issues in art and writing with Guelph's 12 MFA students.

"The department here determines that, if you're going to be a practising artist, you also have to be able to handle language and know what the issues are, and you have to be able to talk about them and write about them. I think that will hold the students in good stead in the future."

SOFAM director Prof. John Kissick says he's thrilled to have Enright on campus.

"Robert Enright is one of the country's most eloquent, incisive and prolific thinkers on contemporary culture," he says. "His thoughtful and empathic writing on the visual arts has, over the past 20 years, made his voice among the most respected and recognized in the field. His presence on our faculty ensures that our fine art program will continue to be considered one of the very finest of its kind in Canada."

Enright, who studied English in his formal education, says he has been self-trained in visual arts. "I learned everything about visual art by looking."

When he was hired by CBC Radio
— the employer of his well-known
cousin, Michael Enright — as an arts
critic, he was sent all over North
America to interview artists. "The
learning curve was really steep. I felt
privileged that I was thrown in and
obliged to sink or swim."

He not only managed to float as a cultural journalist but also founded Border Crossings, the world's most respected quarterly arts magazine, which is now in its 23rd year.

Journalist Robert Fulford commented in an article for the National Post that "writers in Border Crossings accomplish, better than most, the critic's most difficult task; communicating art ideas to non-artists and artists alike, explaining what matters to the first group without boring or appalling the second. Enright conducts for Border Crossings some of the best published interviews in the country. He has a way of eliciting frankness from artists."

A collection of Enright's interviews were published by Bain & Cox in a 1997 book called Peregrinations: Conversations With Contemporary Artists. In addition to writing about visual artists, he has conducted interviews and reviewed works in the theatre, dance, film and performance art worlds.

"I've always been a border crosser, and the magazine was based on the premise that artists never looked at only one thing," he says. "I never think of writing about art as a singular thing. I think of it as being about the way we structure the experience of our lives in a very focused way that is often fed by the most unusual or curious things."

Although some artists fear having their work reviewed by an arts critic, Enright says he tends to write about things he is passionate about.

"I think the act of good criticism is an act of congenial intelligence and rigorous generosity. That's always what's guided me. If you bring a preconceived set of conditions to art, you're not going to see it."

On March 28, Enright will give a talk on beauty at 7 p.m. in Room 114 of the MacKinnon Building.

NEW YORK BOOK LAUNCH SET

A new book by Judith Nasby, director of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, on Guelph-born artist Rolph Scarlett will have its New York City launch Feb. 19 from 3 to Sp.m. at the Washburn Gallery. During the event, Nasby will give a talk on the book, Rolph Scarlett: Painter, Designer, Jeweller, which is the first critical retrospective of the artist's life and 75-year career.

MAXIE NAMED TO COUNCIL

Grant Maxie, manager of the Animal Health Lab in Laboratory Services, will serve a three-year term on the council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario (CVO) as a councillor for Region 4, U of G. The CVO, which operates under the Veterinarians Act to ensure protection of the public interest, is the licensing body for vets in Ontario. Maxie will serve on the discipline committee and as council liaison to the OVC Veterinary Teaching Hospital advisory board.

SYNGENTA FUNDS RESEARCH

PhD candidates Christopher Cutler and Nathan Owen-Going of the Department of Environmental Biology have been awarded the Syngenta Scholarship in Sustainable Agriculture, which supports graduate research that focuses on creating a balance in agriculture among social, environmental and economic factors. Cutler is investigating a selective insect growth regulator to manage Colorado potato beetles. Owen-Going is studying the removal of plant byproducts from hydroponic systems.

LA STUDENTS CAPTURE TOP DESIGN AWARDS

U of G landscape architecture students swept the top awards in the annual Aggregate Property Rehabilitation Student Design Competition sponsored by the Ontario Aggregate Resources Organization. Members of the first-place team were Alain Lamontagne, Jennifer Mazenauer and Jessica Philips, who presented "Waterscape: Rejuvenation of Life . . . Aberfoyle Pit." Second place went to Stephanie Jarvis for "Links at the Lakes." Tied for third place were "Green Means Grow" (Mary Anne Young, Lisa Liu and Kathryn Tutkaluk) and "Nature's Refuge" (Rachael McLean, Meghan Stewart, Luke Jefferson and Katelyn Inlow).

The following appointments were recently announced at U of G:

- Sandra Auld, research ethics co-ordinator, Office of Research
- Ray Darling, associate registrar, Admission Services
- Michelle Lindsay, contracts manager, Office of Research
- Robert Mansz, agricultural assistant, Large-Animal Clinic, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Rob Quinn, agricultural assistant, Large-Animal Clinic
- Jody Riel, research animal technician, Ponsonby dog conditioning unit, Research Stations Operations
- Rebekah Theodore, secretary/receptionist, Human Rights and Equity Office.

'Crop a Cop' for Red Cross Tsunami Relief

HREE MEMBERS of U of G's Campus Security Police will participate in "Crop a Cop" and have their heads shaved to raise money for Red Cross tsunami relief March 2 at 1 p.m. in the University Centre courtyard.

Robin Begin, manager of operations, and officers Jim Armstrong and Bryce Kohlmeier will have their heads shaved by president Alastair Summerlee: Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration); and Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs).

"It will be more than two months since the disaster, so donations may

have dried up a little," says
Armstrong. "We're trying to keep
people contributing."

He Paris and Kohlmeier will

He, Begin and Kohlmeier will visit campus departments and residences with pledge forms in the weeks leading up to the event. Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$10 or more.

'We're All Biologists Now'

College of Biological Science remake intended to help biologists forge new teaching and research links

BY ANDREW VOWLES

NE DAY LAST FALL, College of Biological Science dean Michael Emes called a lunch meeting with a longtime evolutionary biologist in his college and two colleagues from the College of Physical and Engineering Science. The latter were a newly arrived mathematician, who was still unpacking boxes on the top floor of the MacNaughton Building, and a computing scientist from the Reynolds Building.

Emes says his intent was less to engage in a four-way discussion than to bring together the three unrelated scientists and see what ideas might develop. "I just sat back and watched the sparks fly."

Those sparks came not from a clashing of ideas but from the possible welding of a new collaboration among three researchers from seemingly disparate fields. Weeks later, those researchers are still talking about ways to use math and computing tools in studying the biologist's DNA-based "bar-coding" system for identifying individual species of organisms. More than that, Emes points to the meeting as an example of a revolution in biological sciences that is reshaping his college and its relations with other disciplines.

Two years' worth of consultations have culminated in a major reorganization of departments and responsibilities in CBS intended to reflect and anticipate changes in biological sciences at Guelph. Among the key changes, the five departments in CBS — Botany, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Microbiology, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, and Zoology — have been reorganized into three.

Two of those new departments have resulted from recombining several of those former units in different ways. The new Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB) consists of members of the former departments of Microbiology and Molecular Biology and Genetics, biochemists from the former Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry (who had moved last year to CBS from CPES) and some botanists.

Also new is the Department of Integrative Biology (IB), which includes botanists and members of the former Department of Zoology,

The third department — Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences (HBNS), chaired by Prof. Terry Graham — actually remains unchanged. That department resulted from a merger 10 years ago of two former departments in CBS and a consolidation of the department's people and resources in the Animal Science and Nutrition Building.

Many of the members of MCB, chaired by microbiology professor Chris Whitfield, have moved into Phase To the new science complex from former offices in the

MacNaughton and Chemistry and Microbiology buildings. The remaining members of the new department and all members of the new IB department—chaired by zoology professor Moira Ferguson—will move from the Axelrod Building to the science complex after completion of Phase 2 in 2007. HBNS will remain in Animal Science and Nutrition

The college has also established graduate and undergraduate program committees. Those groups will be chaired respectively by Prof. Glen Van Der Kraak, the college's associate dean (research), and an associate dean (academic) to be appointed this year. These new bodies are intended to help co-ordinate and integrate teaching and research activities across the college.

The three departments will continue to offer the college's existing degree majors, but will also pursue new courses and programs. Two already in the proposal stage are a graduate program in molecular and cell biology and a bioinformatics graduate program involving that recently arrived mathematician and other researchers across the University.

The restructuring is intended to enable people across CBS to forge new teaching and research connections with each other and with counterparts around campus, says Emes. Referring to advances over the past decade in everything from genetics to evolutionary theory to ecology—and to the recent success of interdisciplinary ventures, including funding applications and the science complex—he says: "The way we do science has changed. We're all biologists now."

He points, for example, to studies of interactions between genes and the environment being undertaken by college researchers in an applied evolution centre funded last year by the Canada Foundation for Innovation. Elsewhere, biocomputation and bioinformatics are drawing together mathematicians, computing scientists, physicists, chemists and biologists to study interactions from the molecular level to whole organisms and populations.

Ferguson, a faculty member since 1986 and a U of G graduate, says the restructuring will help her new department's "critical mass" of researchers tackle complex research problems together.

"It is becoming more difficult for individual researchers to make significant breakthroughs without collaborating beyond the boundaries of their individual labs," she says.

Prof. Richard Reader, who recently retired as chair of the former Department of Botany, says the philosophy of doing science has changed dramatically. Just look at the heightened interest in studying molecular biology and genetics—an approach that by definition erases many of the traditional boundaries between organisms or whole kingdoms of living things, he says.

"The tools and questions are the same whether it's a plant, animal or microbe."

Reader notes that botanists and zoologists have regularly interacted through an interdepartmental ecology program for three decades and joint research in plant-animal interactions.

Whitfield says the former departments included researchers studying anything from molecules to populations

"What this new organization has done is draw together all those individuals, regardless of whether you work on a bacterium, plant or animal. We're drawing together people with a common research philosophy and common avenues of investigation."

Referring to his own new unit, he says: "A lot of outstanding break-throughs are not necessarily within the disciplines but at the interface between disciplines, and that's what we're trying to capture with this department."

Graham says the earlier merger of human biologists and nutritional scientists that spawned his current department anticipated today's interdisciplinary activity. A subsequent review of the department's graduate and undergraduate programs has resulted in an integrated, unique set of programs, he says.

"In the last decade, we have done what the rest of the college is doing

CBS hopes the restructuring will make it easier to promote its programs to prospective students. More and more, those students are looking for integrated program majors in biology rather than the traditional disciplines of, say, botany or zoology. Within the college's undergraduate programs, the single largest enrolment is in the biological sciences major.

"The ability to maintain breadth as well as to study areas in depth is appealing to them," says Emes.

At the same time, it's the range of degree majors that differentiates Guelph's biology program from those at other universities.

"Guelph still stands out because we offer a wider array of programs than any other university in Ontario."

CBS is undergoing a curriculum review designed to encourage "active learning" among students, including skills in analysis, problem solving and critical thinking. Whitfield says both that review and the college restructuring will make it easier for students to find their appropriate program.

He also expects to see reduced overlap between units and more efficient resource use, rather than competition for students between majors within the college.

UNIVERSITY & GUELPH

Assistant Vice-President, Human Resources

The University of Guelph invites expressions of interest in and nominations for the position of Assistant Vice-President, Human Resources, with the appointment to be effective as soon as possible and no later than July 1, 2005.

The University of Guelph, with its main campus located in Guelph, Ontario, less than an hour from Metropolitan Toronto, has achieved prominence in Canada and around the world as a research-intensive and learner-centred university. Approximately 16,200 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students attend the University of Guelph to pursue 11 undergreduate and 45 graduate degree programs. With 750 full-time faculty and approximately 2,000 full-time staff, Guelph's annual operating budget totals approximately \$450 million, including research funding. Further information about the University may be found at http://www.uoguelph.ca.

The Assistant Vice-President, Human Resources is a key member of the senior administrative team of the University, reporting to the Vice-President, Finance and Administration. The Assistant Vice-President is critical in achieving the University's objectives of excellence, equity and outreach through the strategic leadership of a talented teem of 38 in liabour reletions, compensation, payroll, pension and benefits, staff development, and health and well-being.

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open-minded approach to problem solving, and an outstanding record of executive experience in human resources in a complex, diverse, multi-union organization. Expertise in providing dynamic leadership in a collegial environment, a transformative approach to developing and implementing a strategic vision, and a demonstrated commitment to progressive human resources practices is essential.

The University of Guelph is committed to an employment equity progrem that includes special measures to echieve diversity among its faculty and staff. We therefore particularly encourage applications from qualified aboriginal Canadians, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and women.

The Search Committee will begin consideration of candidates in late February 2005. To ensure consideration, applications including a resume, a letter of introduction and the names of five references (who will not be contacted without consent of the applicant) should be forwarded as soon as possible. All correspondence should be sent, in confidence, to the University's executive search consultants.

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Genetic Interaction Key to Social Recognition in Mice

Groundbreaking discovery featured in January issue of Science magazine

BY RACHELLE COOPER

PROF. ELENA CHOLERIS, Psychology, has made a groundbreaking discovery that explains how genes work together to form the basis of social recognition.

Choleris's research, which could have implications for better understanding human disorders affecting sociality, is featured in the January issue of Science magazine and was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America and the Journal of Neuroendocrinology.

Choleris studied the genetic interactions necessary for one mouse to recognize another.

"If the individuals of one species can't recognize others, it means that can't be a social species, so social recognition is really the basis of all social life," she says.

Although scientists have known that estrogens — through their alpha receptor and the gene for neuropeptide oxytocin — are involved in the regulation of social recognition in mice, Choleris's studies were the first to show that the most recently discovered estrogen receptor, beta, and the gene for oxytocin's receptor are also needed for social recognition.

Based on her most recent discoveries, she has concluded that, in the regulation of social recognition, these four genes are connected together in what she calls a "micronet."

"As with a net, if you cut it at any one of these four points, you will block social recognition because all the genes have to work together as a mechanism for social recognition to happen," says Choleris, who's the lead author of the study that she completed with Don Pfaff of Rockefeller University. "I see this as the core control of social recognition."

For the study, Choleris put a new mouse into another mouse's cage for five minutes. After a 15-minute break, she put the new mouse back in the cage and repeated this process with the same mice four times.

"By the fourth time, a mouse with normal genes will have figured



Prof. Elena Choleris is studying the genetic basis of social behaviour in mice.

out that the visitor mouse is always the same, so the social investigation — the interest shown towards the visitor — declines," she says.

The fifth time, Choleris introduced a different mouse, and the resident mouse immediately recognized it was a new visitor and started the examination process over again.

When she did the same experiment with a resident mouse missing one of the four genes that make up the micronet, or where the gene had been temporarily blocked, the animal spent the same amount of time investigating its repeat visitor and its new visitor, showing that the mouse lacked social recognition skills. She also found that, no matter which gene a mouse was missing, the animal showed the same impairment in social recognition.

The natural breakdown of this micronet in the wild can have serious implications. Choleris and Pfaff, in collaboration with Martin Kavaliers of the University of West-

ern Ontario, have also shown it can lead to mice having a diminished ability to stay away from mice with parasites because socially aware mice distinguish between infected and uninfected males on the basis of odours.

Understanding the genetic basis of social behaviour in mice could also help explain the neurobiological causes of human disorders that affect sociality, says Choleris.

"There are studies suggesting the oxytocin system may be impaired in people who suffer from autism."

Flaws Discovered in Graph Used to Demonstrate Global Warming

Increased temperatures of the 20th century are well within the bounds of natural variability, says economist

BY RACHELLE COOPER

ROF. ROSS MCKITRICK, Economics, is part of a team that has found a computer programming error in the temperature history graph that's been used to demonstrate global warming and the need for the Kyoto Protocol, which comes into effect Feb. 16.

McKitrick and his coauthor, Stephen McIntyre, have uncovered fundamental flaws in the "hockey stick graph" used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to argue that the 1990s were the warmest decade of the millennium. Their research is appearing in Geophysical Research Letters and the interdisciplinary science journal Environment and Energy.

The graph, which shows average temperatures since AD 1000, got its name because it looks like a hockey stick lying on its side; average temperatures remain steady for 900 years, then shoot up in the 1900s, creating the blade of the hockey stick. Since the graph was published in Nature and Geophysical Research Letters by University of Virginia professor Michael Mann in the late 1990s, it's been the basis for showing the effects of global warming.

"We uncovered several flaws in the hockey stick study, notably a computer programming error that overemphasized hockey stick shapes in the climate data and downplayed everything else," says McKitrick. Because reliable temperature measurements have been available only since about 1850, Mann's study used the dimensions of tree rings to calculate earlier average temperatures. But McKitrick and McIntyre found that each tree ring series was transformed incorrectly by subtracting the 1902 to 1980 mean, rather than the mean over the whole length of the series.

"As a result, the variance of hockey stick-shaped tree ring data—which makes up only a small portion of the database—gets inflated, and a subsequent part of the program puts all the weight on it, effectively ignoring the rest of the data," says McKitrick.

The researchers applied Mann's method to lists of trendless random numbers with the same pattern of variability as tree ring data.

"His method yielded a hockey stick-shaped pattern 99 per cent of the time," says McKitrick. "This erroneously suggests that the data are dominated by hockey stick patterns, when, in fact, the data we fed in are simply machine-generated noise with no underlying trend."

When McKitrick and McIntyre corrected the analysis and recalculated average temperatures using the same tree ring data used by Mann, they found that the 20th century still experienced an increase in average temperature, but the change is well within the bounds of natural variability.



The minimum wage is going up.

	General Minimum Wage	Students under 18 and working not more than 28 hours per week or during a school holiday	Liquor Server	Hunting & Fishing Guides: foi less than five consecutive hours in a day	Hunting & Fishing Guides: for five or more hours in a day whether or not the hours are consecutive	Homeworkers (people doing paid work in their home for an employer)
Current wage rate	\$7.15/hour	\$6.70/hour	\$6.20/hour	\$35.75	\$71.50	110% of the minimum wage
Feb.1, 2005 wage rate	\$7.45/hour	\$6.95/hour	\$6.50/haur	\$37.25	\$74.50	110% of the minimum wage

On February 1, 2005, the general minimum wage will increase to \$7.45 per hour from the current rate of \$7.15 per hour. Annual increases will follow bringing the general minimum wage to \$8.00 per hour on February 1, 2007. The increases are being phased in over four years and will also be reflected in all minimum wage categories.

To find out more about how the new minimum wage guidelines affect employers and employees, call or visit the Ministry of Labour web site.

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Convocation Feb. 23 & 24

Continued from page 1

1975, he oversaw expansion in the areas of humanities, social sciences and basic science and was instrumental in helping to create the Arboretum. He went on to serve as MP for Guelph from 1984 to 1993 and minister for science from 1990 to 1993. He was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1998.

At 2:30 p.m., Helleiner, one of Canada's most influential living social scientists, will address graduands of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences and receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. His work spans more than 40 years, and he has served as senior adviser to numerous international organizations. In 2003, he was named an Officer of the Order of Canada for lifetime achievement.

Although unable to attend, Christofides will also be honoured during this ceremony. A former chair of the Department of Economics, he retired in 2001 and is currently a professor of economics at the University of Cyprus.

'Two for One' — and Then Some

Guelph-Humber's degree-diploma mix attracts 'pioneering' students looking for focused studies and after-class opportunities

BY ANDREW VOWLES

N THE GUELPH-HUMBER classroom, they focus like lasers on their studies. Outside the classroom, they're involved in a range of extracurricular activities and often have a part-time job. They're risk-takers, choosing a new school over established universities, and often uninhibited about promoting G-H to other students. Many are the first generation in their family to attend post-secondary education in Canada, Many commute to school from an hour away, or even further in the case of one student travelling from - of all places - Guelph.

Those are some of the key attributes of the roughly I,300 students enrolled in six programs at Guelph-Humber, an institution so new that it's still looking ahead to its first graduating class in 2006, says Jock Phippen, manager of registrarial services for the Toronto-based campus.

Contrasting the students he sees each day with those he encountered in his former job co-ordinating undergraduate admissions at Guelph, Phippen, a BA graduate of U of G, says: "The students who have chosen to come here are truly pioneering. They could have gone to longer-established institutions, but they've chosen to come to us."

Who are these focused pioneers anyway? At Guelph talked recently to six G-H students enrolled in a variety of programs.

Second-year business administration student Ameer Ali wants Mel Gibson's job. Or at least the job of his advertising executive character in the 2000 movie What Women Want.

Ali's getting some volunteer experience as a student ambassador and as a STAMP leader, helping to sell would-be G-H students on the merits of the school and its programs and helping new students by serving as an online support peer.

"It's the best job I've ever had in my life," he says of his STAMP role. "I'm paid to have fun."

He's also a learning support peer in the Learning Commons, which he describes as the heart of the Guelph-Humber Building. "I like getting involved in the school."

Born and raised in North York, Ali completed an international baccalaureate and was able to transfer some of those credits to his program at Guelph-Humber.

He's a big booster of what he calls G-H's "two-for-one offer" of a degree and a diploma in four years. Despite being enrolled in the largest program at the school, he says: "Tlike the small atmosphere. I didn't want



The University of Guelph-Humber has attracted students who are not only academic achievers but also actively involved in a range of extracurricular activities. Among them, from left, are Ameer Ali, Andre Lewin, Dario Guiao and Jeff Stanlick.

lectures where I was just a number."

Having watched her older sister take four years to complete a BA followed by a two-year diploma at the Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, Michelle Sturino figured she could save herself some time by enrolling in Guelph-Humber's media studies program.

"The degree and diploma caught my eye," says the Mississauga resident, now in her third year of a four-year program that will net her both university and college credentials.

Her choice was a good one from an extracurricular point of view as well. A longtime sports fanatic, Sturino was named rookie of the year as a forward on the U of G women's rugby team that won gold at provincial championships in 2002. This year's squad claimed bronze in Ontario University Athletics play.

A STAMP leader, Sturino is also a founding member of the G-H Athletic Council, through which she has encouraged other students to consider varsity sports at the University.

"A lot of students don't realize they can play for Guelph," she says.

To help address the problem of transportation, the group has arranged for a twice-daily shuttle service between Toronto and Guelph.

Sturino spent part of last semes-

ter on an internship with the FAN-590 sports radio station in Toronto, doing everything from slicing audio clips to conducting research for hosts. One of her more unusual duties came about when she and another intern volunteered to move Tie Domi's Mercedes to spare the Toronto Maple Leafs winger a parking ticker

She plans to become a sports broadcaster in the vein of Kathryn Humphreys, sports specialist with Citytv. "She has a great rapport with most Toronto-based athletes, and I want to have that, too."

Andre Lewin is in his second year of the justice studies program, having transferred from Humber's police program. He recently won the Association of Black Law Enforcers Scholarship and a bursary from the Community Police Liaison Committee.

He plans to seek work in police services and is considering applying to law school. For now, he's working as a security guard at a nearby department store and volunteering in the probation office of a Toronto court.

At Guelph-Humber, he belongs to a task force on student civility that has made recommendations to improve students' classroom behaviour.

As his program's representative on the Guelph-Humber Student Association, Lewin has been involved in fundraising for a memorial for an officer killed last year in Cobourg. He also helped raise money for a sandwich drive, which enabled the justice studies student committee to deliver about 500 sandwiches to youth and homeless shelters in the greater Toronto area.

"I like helping people," says Lewin. Take that young child who went missing one day in the mall where he works. Recalling the mother's reaction when he finally returned with the child, he says: "It's like the world was lifted off her shoulders. That makes me feel great."

Second-year media studies student Kimi Holloway, a member of the G-H cheerleading squad, has become something of a cheerleader for the school itself, serving as a student ambassador and as a public relations officer with the Humber Students Federation (HSF).

That role apparently comes naturally for Holloway, a program representative for the public relations stream of G-H's media studies program.

She also writes and edits for the HSF newspaper and has become involved with a new business society club on campus. "You need to know a variety of things to succeed in life," she says.

In an unlikely move, Holloway came to Guelph-Humber from Virginia, turning down scholarships from several American schools. She says none of those prospects were as enticing as the idea of studying abroad — despite what her friends thought. "When I said I was going to Canada, they didn't believe me."

She hopes to stay after graduation. She loves Toronto's multicultural feel, an eye-opener for a 19-year-old from a town of 10,000 people. "I feel like I've gotten a whole new experience."

Dario Guiao, a second-year computing student, figures he's getting the best of both worlds at Guelph-Humber. "I pretty well know everyone in the school," he says. At the same time, he has a conduit to the University through his membership on the varsity wrestling

team. The 25-year-old Mississauga resident trains at Guelph three or four times a week.

Back at G-H, he's a learning support peer and a STAMP leader, helping to ease the transition to university life for entering high school graduates. He's also a member of the Guelph-Humber Students Association Academic Council, working to improve students' experience.

He's enthusiastic about the benefits of earning both a degree and diploma. "You get the theoretical background of university and the practical applications of college," he says. Not to mention a chance at two co-op terms.

Earlier, Guiao completed an engineering program at Ryerson University. He's considering graduate studies in computing or science, perhaps at Guelph, where a younger sister is studying science.

Jeff Stanlick, a graduate of Guelph's John F. Ross CVI, wanted something out of the ordinary when he began investigating universities — ideally something with hands-on applications that would allow him to get out and work with people. He figured G-H's family and community social services program would provide the perfect mix.

"The idea of having the theory and the degree as well as the diploma, having the practical placements and experience — it was no question when I saw the program," says Stanlick, who may pursue a master's degree in social work after graduation.

Also attractive was the prospect of several field placements. "It was exactly what I wanted."

He's interested in working in crisis intervention. He already volunteers with Victim Services Wellington in Guelph, talking to victims of fires, accidents and domestic violence on the phone and in person.

Last year, Guelph-Humber recognized Stanlick for his work with victims of violence and his outstanding achievement in leadership by presenting him with a Student Leadership Scholarship, one of four awarded to G-H students.

In 1999, he attended an international youth leadership conference in Tahiti as one of five Canadians invited to meet youth from around the world to discuss global issues.

And in 2001, he visited Japan on a one-year youth exchange through Rotary International. There, he spoke to groups about Canada and taught English as a volunteer.

Back home, he started a business making decorative ice sculptures until he learned he'd been accepted at Guelph-Humber. (He still works at occasional events, including making a sculpture for the Atrium Restaurant last year.)

A learning support peer and a STAMP leader, Stanlick commutes to Toronto from Guelph. His mother, Nancy, is a staff member in the U of G Library. His brother, Jason, is a graduate of Guelph's biomedical toxicology program.



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Bringing the World to Guelph

BY RACHELLE COOPER

ATCHING THE FIRST GROUP of students she had recruited from abroad walk across the stage in the Gryphon Dome to receive their U of G degrees last June was definitely a highlight of Mary Haggarty's career.

The University's international admissions co-ordinator says she felt extremely proud at the convocation ceremony because it was the first group she'd seen through from start

"I had been in their high schools, saw them in their school uniforms, met their parents, saw them through the application process, saw them volunteering all over campus and getting really involved, then got to see them get their degrees."

Haggarty's position was created six years ago, and she's been responsible for international admissions and recruitment ever since. She's been working in Admission Services

"The biggest misconception people have about my job is that they think I go on holiday all over the world at the expense of the University," she says.

Although she does spend two or three weeks at a time from September to December giving presentations at international college fairs and meeting with Canadian high commissioners or consulate office staff in foreign countries, she says it's not always that exotic. "I may be at an international high school in To-



Mary Haggarty loves recruiting students from abroad to U of G.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

ronto or at an educational fair in Buffalo or Bermuda.

While abroad, Haggarty gives presentations in high schools, works at college fairs and often meets one-on-one with students and parents after hours. She's also responsible for staying on top of the changes that occur in each country's education system.

Three years ago, when Bermuda changed its education system, she met with a representative of the ministry of education to get a copy of the new curriculum. She then had it reviewed by every department at

Guelph, and U of G became the first Canadian university to evaluate and accept it as being compatible with the Canadian system. "It opened up a whole new market," she says.

Doing the research when I'm abroad helps us here in our office hecause it gives the applicants confidence that we really know where they're coming from and that we understand the challenges they face."

After the recruitment season, Haggarty shifts gears to get ready to receive applications from international students. She works with the international transcript clerk and counsellors to make sure applicants include all the necessary documents and answers students' questions about the application process.

"The exciting part of my job is getting to tell people they've been offered admission," she says.

Another task she takes pleasure in is letting international students know they've received a scholarship from Guelph. As chair of the International Student Scholarship Committee, Haggarty is on the team that ranks international students according to marks to determine who will receive entrance awards.

Her role with the students technically ends when the letters of admission go out, but she says she has a hard time emotionally letting them

"Because I meet them in their home countries and meet their parents and help them through the process, I can't wait to see them when they get here.'

Of the 400 international undergraduates who arrived on campus from other countries last fall the majority were from the United States, Trinidad and Tobago, China, India and Japan. Those countries have been the focus of Haggarty's recruitment for the past few years.

"Now that those five markets have been established, we're going to start looking at new markets," she

Haggarty also acts as a liaison among other staff in Admission Services, graphic designers, writers and printers to create fact sheets, brochures and material for the web. She's currently developing new marketing materials for recruiting U.S. students. As part of that, she's meeting with focus groups of American students to make sure Guelph's messages have the right tone for their age group and interests.

Haggarty believes international students bring a lot to U of G.

"Their numbers might be small, but they're very involved and they become a special part of the Guelph community. They make us very

Gone Fishing — for a Second Career

Retired U of G zoologist now working in Thailand to be honoured for fisheries research and management in Great Lakes

BY ANDREW VOWLES

T LAST HE'S FULFILLING a lifelong wish to work on fish in the tropics. But almost five years after retiring from U of G, University professor emeritus Bill Beamish keeps getting lured back from his second career in Thailand to southern Ontario.

Not that the zoologist is complaining about two return trips to Canada roughly bookending the

He spent the first week of January at a conference in Windsor that included a special session held to mark his longtime research career. Now back in Thailand, where he's a contract professor in Burapha University's biology department, Beamish is looking ahead to early June. That's when he'll be officially recognized for his longtime role as a commissioner of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC), a binational organization that co-ordinates sea lamprey control and fisheries management across the Canada-U.S. border.

In early January, the annual Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research included a special speaker session held to recognize his career in aquatic species, habitats and envi-

ronments. Beamish, who retired in 2000, has published more than 170 journal articles and written 15 books and book chapters.

The proceedings from the special ession will be published in Guelph Ichthyology Reviews, edited by Prof.

Referring to his former colleague's leading studies in fisheries management, water quality and fish physiology, Noakes says: "He has contributed an enormous amount to Canadian fisheries research.'

He underlines Beamish's longtime leadership within the GLFC, beginning with committee membership in the late 1960s. In 1989, Beamish was appointed one of four Canadian commissioners on the binational body; he chaired the commission from 2002 until stepping

The GLFC was established in 1955 to tackle the problem of sea lampreys, which were on their way to wiping out much of the Great Lakes fishery after their accidental intro-

"Populations of sea lampreys are now five to 10 per cent of what they were in the Great Lakes in the early 1950s," says Noakes. "There was a disaster under way. That's why the came about."

During its 50th-anniversary celebrations in June, the commission will give Beamish an award to mark his longtime leadership, including his role as chair of a GLFC committee responsible for sea lamprey

"The thing he brought to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission was his understanding of sea lamprey biology and his strong, strong commitment to sound science and resource management," says Chris Goddard, executive secretary of the GLFC in Ann Arbor, Mich. "I also think he cared very deeply about the ecology of the Great Lakes. He was committed to responsible management. Bill made sure all our decisions were made on the soundest science we could generate.'

Back at Burapha, located in a resort town on the Gulf of Thailand about 100 kilometres southeast of Banokok, Beamish is studying fish and other organisms in streams and their relationships with habitat, information that may help in restoration or conservation efforts.

Thailand's rivers are under pressure from multiple uses, including agriculture, industry, aquaculture

Great Lakes Fishery Commission and commercial fishing, drinking water and recreation.

"They lack adequate ways to assess water quality," says Beamish, who recently began a water quality project with his colleague Pannee Su-ardrit and a graduate student, Sompun Thongnoonni.

He also hopes to work with Noakes and retired zoology professor Patrick Woo on a proposed research project intended to help Thais produce fish through aquaculture more cheaply and efficiently. Among the small-scale projects they hope to implement is a plan to turn waste produce from local markets into cheap, high-quality fish food for fish

"Most people in Thailand get 70 per cent of their protein from fish, either wild or aquaculture," says

Noakes. "Fish production is enormously important."

In Thailand, Beamish has helped establish an international journal called Journal of Science, Technology and Humanities, now in its second year of publication. He's associate editor of the journal, which has an international board of directors and reviewers and solicits papers from international researchers.

"All my life I've wanted to work on tropical systems," says Beamish, who had earlier spent a research leave in Malaysia studying fish ecology in a peat swamp. "The experience was an exciting one not only because of the biology but also because of the culture and the tropical jungle. I enjoy plants about as much as animals, and Southeast Asia has an intriguing selection of both.



Where Race Does Not Matter

"We are all equally human, fragile and fallible"

BY CECIL FOSTER

Editor's note: The following is an edited excerpt from the new book Where Race Does Not Matter: The New Spirit of Modernity by Prof. Cecil Foster, Sociology and Anthropology (Copyright © Cecil Foster 2005). It is reprinted with the permission of Penguin Group (Can-

HIS YEAR MARKS A QUARTER-CENTURY since my arrival in Canada and the beginning of my process of becoming a Canadian. In 25 years, I have seen seemingly radical changes take place. Many of them came with a big fight. Many people paid a heavy price — some even with their lives, in the extreme that is physical death or a kind of social death that is the denial of dreams and aspirations. A generation of immigrants, for example, is moving into old age knowing that they will never attain the dreams they brought with them to this country, but that, because of the sacrifice they made, a later generation stands to benefit.

Someday, they hope, Canada will fully understand the sacrifices of an immigrant, especially those who come from groups that, in the nethermost past of Canadian history, were deemed unsuitable for citizenship in a white man's country.

Someday, the non-white immigrant narratives will be incorporated as a significant and worthwhile part of the "real" Canadian stories, histories and cultures.

Some of these earlier battles now seem mundane — fighting to get black people to seek political nominations; to get them elected and in Cabinet; to see them among the happy citizens of the country, drinking beer on television, reporting the news, writing commentaries in newspapers and hosting talk shows. We fought to see black and other multicoloured Canadians as firefighters, police officers, principals and professors, and soldiers dying for their country. Perhaps it is a mirage, but it seems as if we are fast approaching the point where we can claim, with Aristotle of old, that the best indication of full citizenship is the ability of an individual to hold office and thereby be fully involved in the

governance of the state — in the governance, in other words, of himself or herself now and in the "colonizing" of the future.

For the first time in modernity, it is possible to envisage the day when blackness will be viewed as positively as the rest of humanity. So as not to miss an opportunity, we may want to look as deeply as possible into the mystic to see the mixing of the past with the present to produce the future.

Over the centuries, blackness was associated racially with the negatives of humanity: instability and disruption, illiteracy, criminality, or primarily human instincts. As we look to the future, the negative stereotypes are still there, but there appears to be on the horizon a time when the negative typecasting will be automatically negated in our thinking by the positive attributes that have been withheld so far from those with black skin.

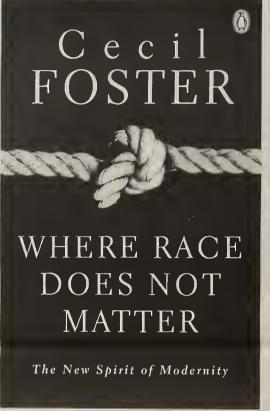
Put another way, in the spirit of equality, those with white skin will be assumed automatically to be capable of both negative and positive stereotypes. There will be no difference in the perceptions of those with black and white skins.

In the interim, people with black skins are still achieving many social, political and economic "firsts." Three things are now worthy of observation.

First, we know that old thoughts do not just die in society: the contradictions of life are simply overtaken by others, and the old ones remain under the surface, offering any influence and even resistance that they can. No thought at any time is pure, for contained within it are elements from the past, some more dominant than others.

Race and racism have been so deeply entrenched in our consciousness in western thought that, short of a social lobotomy — a revolution that paints anew how we view the world in radical gazes — it is unlikely that these two concepts will disappear from our daily lives.

What is new is the realization that the current social consciousness has matured, and various provincial bills of rights and the federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms speak to this coming of age. Society has determined that it is in bad form to treat people in a racist manner. As a group, we have declared that racism is bad morally and ethically.



This does not mean, however, that all individuals in wider society share this view or even believe that it is the one that will ensure freedom for all of us. This may be a case where the general will of the universal group will have to force dissenters to see freedom with a different gaze to bring them in step with the rest of society. Indeed, it is extremely unlikely that, in this social consciousness, we will ever be totally free of anti-black racism, including, ironically, the variety known as Negritude, which argues that to have black skin is to have superior characteristics. And, of course, there is the more virulent strain of anti-black racism, which posits all blacks as inferior biologically and culturally and not fit for full incorporation into the modern state. What we may be able to do is provide the social inoculation to limit any damage and to isolate this anti-social condition.

Second, even though people with black skins still have social mountains to climb to receive recognition as full citizens, their achievements are becoming less and less noticeable as group accomplishments. They are personal. Once, black and other minority people felt particularly burdened when they found themselves in pioneering roles, for they carried not only their individual and personal ambitions but supposedly those of their entire race. They were deemed to be a credit to their race, ever mindful that they were likely to inflict great damage on their race if they failed. For they knew that they rose as individuals, setting the path for others like them to follow, but that they fell as a race, bringing all others down with them. In a place where there is no race, perhaps blacks and other visible minorities will be released from their double burdens and their double consciousnesses.

We are already in an era when such "firsts" are both applauded and greeted with skepticism for having taken so long to occur. Today, the institutions and agencies of the state are routinely taken to task for not getting with the program sooner. Why, people wonder, did it take so long for such-and-such agency or institution to find someone with black skin or a visible minority worthy of prominence? The fact that these institutions finally did find people is more an indictment of their lack of social awareness and good citizenship than testimony to the personal achievements of those they promoted.

Third, there are always truths in the stereotypes, although they limit those truths to finites instead of indicating merely a small part of humanity that is an infinite in opportunities and conditions. Our task is equally to liberate the stereotypes. Humility is needed now that we have "overcome" and the promised land is in sight. For questions will soon arise about how totally liberated people with black skins really are. Would this mean that, semiotically, a black skin would have no meaning or signification? Would there be nothing to preserve and carry forward if the culture eliminated race and racism? I want to answer that black skin will always have meaning and that there will always be memories to carry forward into another time. And in seeking what we should carry forward, it is again necessary for us to return to the mythologies at the beginning of our time.

Back then, as in the case with Greek and Hebrew mythology, there was something socially uplifting and meritorious about having black skin. The Greeks tell a story of the destruction of the world by fire, which caused the natives of Africa to get black skins. This happened when the sun came too near the Earth, causing snowcaps to melt and deluges to happen. In Africa, it became so hot that deserts were formed and the blood of humans rose to the surface of their skin and boiled. They were black because of the blood at the surface of their skin. Similarly, Hebrew tradition tells of the special mark of blackness that was placed on Cain as he wandered the world looking for ways to establish lasting human settlements or what would become nation-states.

In all cases, the mark in these mythologies was black. It was a reminder of humanity, of the fragility of human life and of the human need for a home that is safe and secure and protected. Black skin signified something important about the human condition.

This is the message that black skin should still retain in a land where there is no race. This is the message of the trials by fire that humanity, in general, has come through, and of the hope that there can still be peace and prosperity for all in this world. Black skin would be a reminder to the entire world that we are all equally human, fragile and fallible. And through their actions, those with black skins—those who come from a line of racialized people who were always deemed by others to be descendants of slaves—will show that they have not become, in the Haitian sense, whitemen. Nor have they ever been coons. They will both look black and act morally and ethically black: they will bear the burden of reminding the rest of humanity of the dangers and catastrophes that can happen to all of us when we stop thinking of ourselves as humans and start acting as if we are gods.

This will place a higher moral responsibility on all those blacks who become national and international leaders and statespeople. It will be a burden for some, especially those with black skins, to make sure that, in their thinking and actions, they do nothing that will place other humans in the slavery and social death from which they have escaped — that they do nothing to make others into coons, lesser beings or just objects.

It becomes a responsibility, too. The little boys and girls of Martin Luther King's speech will have the obligation of living up to the high expectations of their ancestors and those of all people who anticipate freedom for all and the enslaving of none, who fought to make sure freedom was not only for a few but for everyone. Their responsibility, equally, is to hold the future faithfully and in trust for everyone. A higher level of morality and humility is expected — a higher level of love for the self through loving all humanity as much as the self.

This way, as humans, we will be reclaiming a meaning and a memory that are as old as humanity itself. We will have a much better chance of overcoming that erstwhile dream deficit. For this is a meaning and a memory that is part of the dream to bring together the two irreconcilable strands of an idealistic human existence not in a knot of history but as a dream of hope.

A Helping Paw

Biology student trains service dog for an important client — herself

By Andrew Vowles

"Step." Pause. "Step." Pause. "Step." CLICK. "Good boy." Ignoring the curious looks from passersby at the top of the stairs to the University Centre courtyard, Sue Alexander presses her hand-held clicker once, then stops and feeds the chocolate-coloured retriever at her side another reward (a pellet of cat food: higher in protein and more flavourful than dog treats, she says).

In one sense, there's nothing really remarkable about what she's doing. Alexander, who heads two dog behaviour organizations in Guelph, has been walking dogs through service guide and behavioural training for more than 10 years. But this particular Chesapeake Bay retriever pacing duffully at her side — and, in willful moments, tugging ahead on the leash — is a special case. If he works out, two-year-old D'fer ("D'fer Dog") may end up working full time for Alexander herself as her service guide dog while she attends classes at U of G. Without the animal — and without recourse to medication and to services available at the Centre for Students With Disabilities — she'd find it nearly impossible to attend school, even for a single course at a time.

"School is a very dangerous place for me," says Alexander, 37, whose emotional and psychiatric disabilities include attention deficit disorder and anxiety. Describing the ever-present sense of apprehensiveness she feels, she evokes the spectre of a 10-foot-tall monster lurking in a corner of the room.

"None of that is immediately apparent during a recent noon hour at U of G. Indeed, she appears remarkably ordinary, even self-assured and voluble. She speaks with authority and conviction about everything from anxiety disorders to dog breed bans and shows no trepidation about being interviewed or photographed. (The biggest challenge turns out to be urging D'fer to co-operate for the photo; he's restless and distracted by the presence of another

dog in the common room of the campus Aboriginal Resource Centre.) Only when Alexander is talking about her late teens do the emotions surface, causing her eyes to tear up and her voice to thicken and quaver.

She was 17 when she attempted suicide, after about two years of bullying and estrangement at high school that she says had been largely ignored by teachers and other adults. Even her parents were unaware of what she'd been going through at school, something that still causes her to shake her head in bewilderment.

Even earlier, at age three, she'd been diagnosed with attention deficit disorder in her native Quebec. Lacking skills in reading social cues and interacting with others, she was ripe for teasing and outright bullying when her family moved to Ontario during her mid-teens.

Hounded by other students, Alexander finally cracked one day, attacking and beating up one of them. Dryly, she recalls that, far from solving the problem, the incident only led to more intense bullying. Just shy of her 18th birthday, she tried to kill herself and ended up in hospital and long-term counselling.

As she recalls the experience, her voice shades into anger: "I don't have children. I'm damned if I'd put a child through what I went through."

Alexander has been living with an anxiety disorder ever since, an affliction that may lurk unseen for long periods, then leap out in the most seemingly benign circumstances. Without apparent cause, she'll feel disoriented, short of breath, dizzy. At times, the attacks have sent her home for days at a time, when she's felt unable to venture beyond her front door. Several times, she ended up with a migraine headache that took her to the hospital.

One memorable incident happened here at the University, when a professor introduced a pop quiz during anatomy lab one day about 10 years ago. Alexander had only recently registered with the Centre for Students With Disabilities, including making arrangements to write her tests and exams at the centre.



The unexpected quiz threw her off balance. "I couldn't answer. I left the classroom in tears. With that kind of anxiety, it makes learning almost impossible."

She'd begun studies at Guelph in 1988 at the urging of her first husband. Taking only one or two courses at a time, she has completed 22 credits toward a biology degree. After a hiatus of several years, she returned to the classroom last fall. That took some planning, including visiting several times before September.

Last semester, she came equipped with a new aid: a guide dog named Phoenix. Despite the preparation, she'd been nervous about returning to the classroom for her course (appropriately enough, she was taking animal behaviour). An icebreaker came early in the semester, thanks inadvertently to the dog, which barked during one lecture. To Alexander's relief, the instructor handled the outburst with dry equanimity, commenting: "Next time, put up your paw."

With the dog by her side, she required medication only three times last semester. "That's a huge deal." She now expects D'fer to help her navigate through the next few years here as a "psychden".

His official label is psychiatric service dog, meaning that he's specially trained to help people with psychiatric disabilities. Just as guide dogs help people with visual impairments, "psych dogs" help their owners function normally in public. Through K9 Helpers, a not-for-profit organization she helped found, Alexander trains psychiatric service dogs, working with one or two animals at a time. So far, she's graduated three dogs through her program: one Chesapeake Bay retriever, a Labrador and a boxer.

The boxer now works with a Guelph woman whose anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder, along with motion perception problems, had kept her more or less confined to the house. In public, the dog helps her move around obstacles and alerts her to passersby or people approaching.

In Alexander's case, she positions D'fer to keep a barrier be-

tween herself and others. When reading a notice board, for example, she places the dog behind her to alert her to anyone approaching. The dog also helps her work around her attention deficit disorder by nuzzling her hand at intervals, a reminder to pay attention.

"We have this back-and-forth, so I don't end up just sitting there," she says, adding that the dog similarly cues her to pay attention while walking rather than focusing on a particular thing.

It normally takes about 18 to 24 months to complete the training, including a six-month period of initial training, then a public access test, which helps determine the dog's suitability for his work and further training. Another year or more of advanced training includes numerous skills — learning to walk up and down stairs, navigating through buildings, handling elevators and escalators, ignoring other dogs and distractions, behaving in restaurants, waiting in lines — to help clients with daily routines. Special training includes such skills as retrieving medication, reminding clients to take medication, interrupting clients' obsessive-compulsive behaviour and providing space for their clients in crowds.

"We're asking for abnormal behaviour from the dog," she says, noting that only about four out of 10 candidates graduate as service dogs. She hopes to improve the odds with her clicker-based program that enables her to train the dog close at hand and within audible distance of the hand-held device (the latter works along with rewards, applying classic psychology principles). She works with Laura Scott, who graduated from U of G in 2003 in animal nutrition.

Alexander also runs Dogs in the Park, a business that helps clients remedy their pets' behavioural problems, from separation anxiety to aggressiveness to obsessive-compulsive behaviour. The most unusual case was a dog with attention deficit disorder that ended up "relatively normal" after being prescribed a canine equivalent of Ritalin.

The business has two part-time employees and a crew of volunteer dog walkers. She has about 20 to 30 clients at any one time; between 700 and 800 dogs have graduated. Most of her clients have mixed-breed dogs, although she sees everything from chihuahuas to mastiffs. Less than one per cent of her caseload consists of American Staffordshire or American pit bull terriers. An opponent of dog breed bans such as legislation currently planned for Ontario, she favours educational programs, including voluntary licensing tests for owners.

After moving to Guelph during the 1980s with her first husband, Alexander had worked as an interpreter at the Arboretum and as an outdoor educator. A lifelong dog owner, she became interested in training when a veterinarian belped her turn around behavioural problems in one pet. She's now a certified dog behaviour consultant and a certified pet dog trainer, as well as a founding member of the service animal consulting division of the International Association of Animal Behaviour Consultants.

She decided last year to resume her stalled degree studies to keep up with new educational and clinical requirements for consultants and trainers. "I have the clinical side but not the formal education." She has published one refereed paper about dog behaviour training and has a second paper currently in review.

Alexander is also a popular speaker on canine aggression, speaking up to eight times a year, mostly to other dog trainers and specialists. This semester, she's booked for gigs in Maryland, Florida, New York City and perhaps Whitehorse. Curiously, she doesn't suffer from stage fright. Although most of those crowds number in the hundreds, "my biggest audience was 17,000, and what a blast," she says.

Fully aware of the irony inherent in training dogs with behavioural difficulties that often sound like some of her personal afflictions, she says: "It gives me a fair bit of empathy. I understand what it's like from the dog's point of view to live in a world that doesn't make sense to you."

taking lessons. "It's a great release to throw yourself into something very physical and something that takes a lot of concentration," he says.

in his organic garden, playing cello, reading and spend-

ing time with his wife and kids. He has also taken his love

of ballet and passed it down to Aidan, who is currently

KAREN KOVATS

Training and development co-ordinator in Human Resources, U of G staff member since 1980

After a quarter-century on the job in Human Resources, Karen Kovats now balances her time with a higher calling. Since October 2003, she's been an ordained deacon in the Anglican Church.

Serving the Diocese of Huron in Cambridge, Kovats says the role of a deacon is to bring the church and the community together.

Karen Kovats

The church can be very insular," she says. "Full-time parish priests don't have as much opportunity to work outside their parish, so as a deacon with a full-time job, I can take the concerns of the world into the church and the church back into the world."

Her main outreach ministry is provided to a low-income housing development in her parish, where she conducts children's programs, serves on the board of management and co-ordinates volunteers for a breakfast program. She also visits hospital patients, prepares people for marriage and baptism, assists with Sunday services and funerals, leads Bible studies, delivers homilies and occasionally conducts services on her own. Last year, she contributed 700 hours of unpaid ministry

Although her official outreach ministry is out of town, her "unofficial" outreach ministry is here on campus. She's a member of the U of G Christian Forum, provides prayer support and helps run an annual "Alpha" course that explores the meaning of life. She also has two children, Aaron and Kendra, who are students at U of G.

IIM KIRKLAND

Faculty member in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences since 1990

Prof. Jim Kirkland is a proud do-it-yourselfer. An avid fly fisher since the age of 15, he realized early on that the rods he was casting didn't have to be purchased in a store. Instead, he makes them himself using graphite blanks, cork rings and a reel seat, and fishes everywhere from the Speed River to the salt waters surrounding Florida and the Bahamas



after hours

Jim Kirkland

He has two fishing rods he's particularly proud of. "They cast just perfectly, and they have just the right components in them," he says.

For Kirkland, there's nothing better than paddling out into the flats in a kayak with rod and reel on board, particularly if the kayak is handmade, which, of course, his is. He also spends time on the links swinging golf clubs he's assembled himself. Each club takes about two hours to complete.

After discovering a great off-hours deal at a local course, he started a golfing club in his department.

When they found out they could golf for \$12.50, 1 got about 20 people signed up.'

Currently, Kirkland is getting ready to drive down to Cape Canaveral to do some fly fishing over Reading Week and plans to stop somewhere around North Carolina to dust off his clubs.

"Wherever the snow runs out, I'll stop and play a round of golf."

GEOFF LEE-DADSWELL

PhD candidate in the Department of Physics

Based on his early years, Geoff Lee-Dadswell should be dancing his way across a theatre stage instead of being a physicist. The son of a ballet instructor, he started studying ballet at age seven and was accepted into the National Ballet School of Canada at age 11. But four years later, he decided to head in another direction after being told that,



Lee-Dadswell

although he could definitely become a professional dancer, he would never be a soloist. "I figured I'd go and do something I'd be better at," he says.

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Annual Awards Recognize Contributions to Student Life

OMINATIONS are being sought for U of G's four annual student life awards — the R.P. Gilmor Student Life Award, the Roberta Mason Rookie Involvement Award, the Andre Auger Citizenship Award and the Brian D. Sullivan Student Leadership Award.

The Gilmor Award recognizes individuals or groups who have contributed to the betterment of student life at U of G. Students, staff and faculty are invited to nominate students, staff, faculty, alumni, community members or organizations associated with the University.

The Roberta Mason Award is presented to a student in any semester who, for the first time, has become actively involved in campus life and has made outstanding contributions to a club or organization at the University.

The Auger Award goes to an undergraduate or graduate student who has consistently demonstrated a sense of personal responsibility and commitment to the community.

The Sullivan Award is presented to a graduating student who has

made significant contributions to student leadership on campus through his or her involvement as an elected or appointed student representative.

All nominations must be submitted by March 4 at 4 p.m. to the Student Activities Office, c/o the Connection Centre on Level 3 of the University Centre. For more information and nomination forms, visit www.studentlife.uoguelph.ca/sao/ recognition_awards.htm.

March 4 is also the deadline to submit applications for the Gordon Nixon Leadership Awards. The awards are available to campus-based student organizations to support significant new initiatives that promote student involvement, service and leadership. Information and application forms are available at www.studentlife.uoguelph.ca/sao/ monetary_awards.htm.

Anyone with questions can send e-mail to sao@uoguelph.ca.

THANK YOU FOR RETIREMENT PARTY, KINDNESS

I'd like to thank everyone who came to my retirement party Dec. 8. I'd especially like to thank some of my co-workers from eight years ago in Graduate Program Services - Pat Bordignon, Pat Dawkins, Johanne Dupont, Vi Walker and Judith Kerr, with whom I worked for more than 25 years — for coming to my party. Good friends are true friends.

Thanks, too, to the former Independent Study staff for hosting the party, to the Office of Open Learning staff I worked with directly in the past year, and to all those who couldn't make it to the party but sent cards, gifts and flowers. To everyone, thank you for the beautiful

I would also like to thank those who sent flowers and cards during my illness in January. Your thoughtfulness and kindness will never be forgotten.

Dolores McLachlan

Healthier Farms, Wealthier Farmers

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions may help both the environment and farmers' bottom line

BY HEATHER SCOTT SPARK PROGRAM

HE PUNGENT AROMA of manure may smell like home to some, but it represents a significant loss of nutrients - including greenhouse gases - into the environment.

Now, U of G researchers are taking different approaches - from manure management to feed strategies - to reduce nutrient loss through gases from agricultural production, including sheep and beef and dairy cattle operations.

Prof. Claudia Wagner-Riddle, Land Resource Science, is examining the impact of alternative manure management methods on greenhouse gas production. Her studies suggest that, if used properly, techniques such as composting can reduce greenhouse gas emission by as much as 50 per cent, putting more nutrients back into the soil as

"Greenhouse gases concern farmers because so many nutrients are lost to the air," says Wagner-Riddle. "These nutrients could have otherwise fertilized crops and increased performance in the cattle."

Manure composting will reduce gas emissions only if producers use proper management techniques, she warns. In fact, her studies show that, if composting manure isn't aerated, it could actually increase greenhouse gas production.

Reducing greenhouse gas production may also improve livestock



Proper manure management techniques not only reduce greenhouse gas production but may also improve livestock growth and performance, says Prof. Claudia Wagner-Riddle. PHOTO BY PAULA BIALSKI

digest plant matter thanks to bacteria in their rumen, but the fermentation of plants in the rumen produces methane, a carbon-rich gas. When methane is exhaled by these animals, the carbon that could have contributed to their growth or milk production is lost to the air.

Enter Profs. James France and

performance. Cattle and sheep can Brian McBride and research associate Ermias Kebreab of the Department of Animal and Poultry Science. They're modelling the effects that different feeding strategies have on methane production. They hope to improve farm income by increasing production efficiency while reducing feed costs.

'In all ruminants, including cat-

tle, methane represents a significant loss of energy," says France. "By changing the animals' diets, we hope we can minimize the amount of methane they produce.'

He's also developing a database to give policy-makers an accurate estimate of Canadian agriculture's role in producing greenhouse gases. A present, it's believed that about 10 per cent of greenhouse gas production comes from agriculture, while fossil fuel burning and industrial production make up the remaining 90 per cent.

Cross-disciplinary research collaborations and information sharing such as that between Wagner-Riddle and France are important for farmers, policy-makers, researchers and the public, says Wagner-Riddle. With Canada's beef industry still reeling from BSE and political pressure to ratify the Kyoto Protocol to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, she believes more research from all disciplines will help produce an environmentally friendly solution that's cost-effective for farmers. Reducing greenhouse gases may also make farmers eligible for compensation such as carbon credits.

With that in mind, Wagner-Riddle and France will co-lead a new secretariat to develop a national research network on greenhouse gases. The network, which will focus on emissions from animal production and manure management, aims to provide advice for farmers to reduce greenhouse gas production.

The network would facilitate communication between researchers of different disciplines nationwide," says Wagner-Riddle. "This would let us look at the whole problem, right from feeding the animal to applying the manure to the field."

The secretariat is sponsored by the BIOCAP Canada Foundation.

Got a Bright Idea?

NSERC awards aim to support established researchers and to inspire students to think about commercial applications of their work

BY ANDREW VOWLES

OT AN IDEA FOR TURNING that new PhD or master's thesis into a commercial product or service? You may qualify for a national award intended to help you do just that.

Up to two candidates may be nominated by U of G for this year's Innovation Challenge Awards. Sponsored by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Canadian Science and Technology Growth Fund, the awards are open to recent graduates in natural sciences, engineering and computer sciences.

The awards are not a reward for something already commercialized but for possible applications," says Patricia Lorenz, director of U of G's

Development Office Business (BDO). "These are different from success recognition awards. With the Innovation Challenge Awards, NSERC's purpose is not only to support established researchers but also to inspire students to think about commercial applications of their

Candidates must have successfully defended or submitted their thesis between May 1, 2004, and April 30, 2005, or expect to defend or submit their thesis before Jan. 1, 2006. Students will have an opportunity to discuss the awards and proposals with BDO managers during an information session planned for March 2 at 3 p.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre.

Guelph officials hope to see between 12 and 24 students considered

internally. Applications consisting of the proposal, a statement of eligibility and a supporting letter from the thesis supervisor or chair should be delivered to the BDO at 130 Research Lane by April 15. Applications will be screened first by the Board of Graduate Studies and Awards, then by a panel of business experts to determine which two University of Guelph projects will be nominated.

Proposals must explain the research, its impact and the main product or service envisioned, including its perceived value to customers or users. The proposal must include information on obstacles and market risks to be overcome and additional needed research, ideas for prototypes or simulations of the

The judges will assess candidate proposals based on presentation, student enthusiasm, novelty, realism, chance of success and impact. NSERC expects to announce this year's award winners in the fall.

Three awards are available, including a single first-prize award of \$10,000 and two runners-up worth \$5,000 each. Winners are selected by a committee composed of representatives from NSERC, post-secondary institutions, corporations, and science and technology organizations.

This is the second year for the awards. Last year's winner from the University of Ottawa developed chemical compounds used in organic semiconductors in electronic devices such as cellphones and personal digital assistants. Runners-up were a project to develop a polymer

that allows drug tablets to pass through the stomach without breaking down and a new scanner for internal biomedical imaging.

Referring to the role of the Canadian Science and Technology Growth Fund, Lorenz says: "The involvement of a fund in the final decisions not only emphasizes that focus but also brings the work to the attention of parties experienced in developing technology who may be able to help realize its potential."

For more information, check out the NSERC website. Students in life sciences can also obtain information from Tom Waddell (Ext. 53503, twaddell@uoguelph.ca) or Steve de Brandebere (Ext. 54916, sdebrab@ uoguelph.ca). Students in physical sciences can contact Jane Hegney (Ext. 58859, jhegney@uoguelph.ca).



It's All About Child's Play

Guelph prof looks for ways around barriers keeping kids from physical activity

BY ANDREW VOWLES

OPPIED THAT YOUR KIDS are spending too little time on the playing field or in the gym or the pool? Getting more Canadian kids off the couch and into the game is the research goal of Prof. John Dwyer, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition.

Dwyer worries that Canadian kids face too many obstacles to becoming and staying physically active. He studies what prevents youth from participating in physical activity and ways to deke around those barriers and improve Canadians' overall fitness level.

The results of inactivity are legion, Dwyer says, pointing to statistics that say about one in three Canadian children are overweight or obese. Fewer than half of youth are physically active enough for optimal growth and development, according to the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute. Predictions are that our lack of activity - coupled with our less-than-wholesome eating habits -- will spell higher health-care bills down the road.

"I've seen the importance of physical activity and nutrition in terms of developing healthy lifestyles it's the foundation," says Dwyer, who studied the psychology of physical activity and sport at the University of Western Ontario and applied social psychology at the University of Saskatchewan.

He's convinced that tackling those problems requires looking at including examining three main kinds of barriers that his studies have shown keep children and youth from getting physical.

Intrapersonal barriers include circumstances such as gender and income and, more important, psychological walls.

"If you don't have much confidence in your ability to be physically active, you're not going to be physically active," he says

That kind of thinking can also lead people to make excuses for not exercising, such as lack of time.

Interpersonal barriers involve the influence of other people.

"For a child on the fence, if a lot

of his or her friends are active, that child is going to be active," says Dwyer, who often rounds up his daughter, Caitlyn, and her friends for a visit to the park with a soccer ball or for a bike ride.

Environmental barriers include the cost of programs and access to recreational facilities and equipment. Far from raising user fees or relying solely on subsidies - which can pose their own barrier for people uncomfortable about sharing financial information - be says: "It's supposed to be physical activity for all. We should be reducing fees or waiving recreational fees."

A different kind of barrier lies in politics and public policy. Providing information to help policy- and de cision-makers design effective programs is the ultimate goal of his studies. For example, studying why girls are often reluctant to participate in physical activity - a particularly pressing issue - suggested to him that many girls dislike having to share the gym or the field with boys. As a result, "both Toronto and Hamilton public health units are using our results in planning a program for girls," says Dwyer,

Much of his work has involved Toronto children and programs. For 10 years, he worked for the city's public health department, where he helped develop and evaluate community programs such as the provincial healthy restaurant program called Eat Smart!

A cross-appointment to the University of Toronto allowed him to teach and study in the field. "I wanted to spend more time doing independent research and teaching." Hence his 2002 move to Guelph. where he teaches research methods and program evaluation and where he's now cross-appointed to the public health and community services unit in Hamilton.

He still works with researchers in U of T's physical activity research program. They're currently analyzing results of a survey of 1,200 teachers and principals in Ontario about opportunities for school-based physical activity. Earlier, he headed a study on curriculum guidelines for health and physical education. Dwyer says his studies show teachers can be a strong influence, including those who frown on school-based recreation and sports because they

take kids away from the classroom.

At home in Mississauga, he has a kind of test case in his nine-year-old daughter, a soccer player who plays or practises four times a week year-round. Caitlyn, a self-starter, has encountered none of those conventional barriers. But he always looks for ways to support her, from serving as taxi driver to cheering at her games.

Then there's the all-important role he serves as a fitness model. Both he and his wife, Shelley, work out at home on a stationary bike or elliptical machine. Dwyer himself makes a point of spending an hour every day on the equipment or out jogging. "At 5:30, I'm up and at it."

Physical activity has been a lifelong habit for this self-described jock, whose father is a former boxer and longtime rower. Dwyer was a competitive wrestler through high school and university in his native Newfoundland, competing in world championships and other international tournaments.

Now 45, he hasn't hit the mats in years. But he's managed to maintain his university weight class and pegs his fitness level today at eight out of 10, compared with near-perfection

He says his own experience is relevant for another reason: it's important to know yourself before choosing an appropriate sport or fitness regimen. Mismatches between sport and personality can be a key barrier for adults and kids alike.

Find out what you like to do and what you can stick with. "As committed as I am to physical activity, if I had to go to a gym or a facility, I wouldn't do it. I don't have time. Having my own equipment at home breaks down one of the barriers for

If you're daunted by the prospect of meeting the current recommended activity level - an hour's worth of moderate or vigorous activity on most days of the week - then why not break up that activity into manageable stretches, even if only 10 minutes at a time?

As for eating, he eschews any particular diet. "Everything in moderation" is the mantra he follows - and one that he brings to his role as a member of a national advisory committee helping to revise Canada's Food Guide

From Classroom to Ad Agency

General Motors project gives students real-word experience in marketing

BY LORI BONA HUNT

OW DO YOU get the word out to young consumers that a new sporty and affordable car will soon be on the market? For General Motors of Canada, the answer includes getting some help from U of G students.

The automobile manufacturing giant, along with EdVenture Partners, a marketing education consultancy firm, has teamed with Guelph marketing students to increase awareness among university-age buyers of GM's new compact sedan, the Pontiac Pursuit.

The students are designing and implementing a promotional campaign for the Pursuit, including con-

a communications strategy, writing proposals, and handling publicity and advertising.

The unique project is at the centre of a practicum course taught by Prof. Paulette Padanvi, chair of the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies. The 29 students in the course have complete control of the project, including a \$3,200 budget, and are assisted by a "program facilitator" from EdVenture. The project culminates with an event in March that involves bringing a Pontiac Pursuit to campus.

"The objective is to come up with an awareness campaign that gets students to think about the Pursuit the next time they're buying a car," says student Casey O'Brien. "Our main goal is to get students to come out and see the Pursuit when it's here. We want at least 600 students to sit in the car when it's on campus."

After the event, class members will travel to GM's Canadian headquarters in Oshawa and give a presentation to company officials that details their promotion plan and the success of the campus event.

Padanyi was approached about taking part in the project by EdVenture, a California-based com-

pany that develops and manages innovative industry-education partnerships. Since its inception about 10 years ago, more than 30,000 students have participated in EdVenture programs in the United States. This is only the agency's second year in Canada and the first time U of G has been involved. Three other Canadian schools are currently working on similar campaigns for other new vehicles.

"I knew instantly that I wanted to be a part of it," says Padanyi. "I thought it was a wonderful opportunity for students who want to apply the theory they're learning in the classroom to real life."

In keeping with this notion, she has created a classroom setting that is more "real world" than academic in nature. There are no formal lectures, reading assignments or quizzes. Instead, the class has been turned into one big advertising agency divided into teams: public relations, advertising and strategy. She provides guidance, assistance and advice, but, for the most part, the students run the class. They structure it much like an advertising agency meeting, with each team providing weekly progress updates. A lot of brainstorming and heated discussions also take place.

"It's really neat to take what we've learned about advertising management and develop a real marketing campaign," says student Maggie Culverwell, head of the publicity team. "All of us developed a promotional campaign as part of a project for Prof. Padanvi's advertising management course, but we didn't get to work with a real client, which is tricky."

Team member and classmate Jessica Taggio agrees. "One of the biggest problems is communication obstacles. You have to work with other people and act in a professional manner, just like you would in a real marketing agency. That can be hard."

Padanyi says watching the students learn communication and negotiating skills has been a colourful

"One of the really interesting things about this exercise is that, for the first time, the students are working in a large team situation. They're learning that co-ordination and behaviour come into play and that there's a pecking order with regard to lines of communication. One of their greatest challenges has been learning to listen to one another."

The class is also discovering what it's like to work with actual clients.

You can't simply develop a plan and leave it at that," says Padanyi. You have to anticipate the needs of the client and the questions that will arise from the work you're doing. The students are learning this and about the process of getting approval from a client. It really is a 'real-world' experience."



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- Barbara Brohman, Admission Services
- · Nigel Bunce, Chemistry
- · John Burger, Biomedical Sciences
- · Muriel Burke, Population Medi-
- · Johanna Campagnolo, U of G Library
- Dennis Craven, Research Stations Operations
- · Bill Culp, OAC
- Andrew Curtis, Research Stations
- · Doug Dodd, Athletics
- · Stephanie Douthwaite, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Starr Ellis, Admission Services
- Ken Fisher, Biomedical Sciences Bruce Fleming, Physical
- Resources
- Pat Gentry, Biomedical Sciences
- · Rod Gentry, Mathematics and Statistics · Jill Gill, English and Theatre
- Studies • Terry Gillespie, Land Resource
- · Saul Goldman, Chemistry
- . Ken Grant, Economics
- · Madge Grant, Computing and Communications Services
- · Linda Hanshaw, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- David Hattle, Physical Resources
- Bryan Henry, Chemistry

- Ed Herold, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition
- Gord Hines, Mathematics and
- Pat Hoare, Financial Services
- Patrick Holland, English and Theatre Studies
- Bruce Holub, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences
- Hendrik Horn, English and Thea-
- Florita Ison, Library
- · Ken Jeffrey, Physics
- Nipa Kaduda, Animal and Poultry
- Bev Kay, Land Resource Science
- · Patricia Keeler, Student Housing
- Fran Keen, Marketing and Consumer Studies
- · Carol Kemnitz, Physical Re-
- Wilma Kennedy, Hospitality Ser-
- · Mary Konstantareas, Psychology • Larry Kraeger, Research Stations Services
- Elizabeth Lamont, Office of Open Learning
- · Jimmy Law, Physics
- George Loney, Library
- Neil MacKinnon, Sociology and Anthropology
- · Alan Male, Library
- Gerry Manning, English and Theatre Studies
- · Eleanor Martin, Human Re-
- Judy Martin, Philosophy
- · Allen McBurney, Research Sta-
- Wayne McDonell, Clinical Stud-
- Dolores McLachlan, OAC
- · Pearl Milne, Library
- Jim Moggy, Library
- · Ellen Morrison, Library

- Michael Moss, Geography
- · Ken Pepper, Student Housing Services
- · Lana Phillips, Environmental Biology
- · Jean Price, Integrative Biology
- Douglas Prior, Research Stations Operations
- Jim Purdie, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- · Herb Rauscher, OVC Educational Unit
- Richard Reader, Integrative Biology
- · Jessie Reid, Plant Agriculture (Vineland)
- · Mary Ann Robinson, Library
- · Bruce Ryan, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition
- · Rowena Scott, Library
- · Norma Seibert, Alumni Affairs and Development
- · Roger Shantz, Research Stations Operations
- Brian Smith, Physical Resources
- · Gary Smith, OVC
- · Jamie Snell, History
- . Don Stevens, Integrative Biology
- Peter Stonehouse, Agricultural Economics and Business
- Barbara Stuart, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition
- John Sutton, Environmental Biology
- Robert Sweetman, Land Resource Science
- · Olga Vrablic, Biomedical Sci-
- · Sheila Ward, Student Housing Services
- · Margaret White, Accounts Pay-
- · Leonard Wiley, Plant Agriculture
- Brian Wilson, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences
- · Tom Wilson, Computing and Information Science



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore, to be held at the end of the semester. Anyone who submits the right answer by Feb. 11 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to rkendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 569B2. The following people correctly responded that the Jan. 26 photo was of the transom over the front door of the OVC main building: Wayne Aitken, Sandra Tyson, Steve Gazzola and Mike Favrin.

PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date Deadline Feb. 23 Feb. 15

March 9 March 1 March 23 March 15

April 6 March 30



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Integrated Planning Based on Collegiality, Openness

Continued from page 1

scribed a framework for planning that is consistent with the University's accepted values and strategic directions and guided by the realities of our competitive society, anticipated enrolment, financial pressures and physical limitations.

In a second paper, Mancuso described the advantages of adopting an integrated planning model and outlined the critical steps necessary to build on current U of G planning exercises to develop a five-year plan for the fiscal years 2006/07 to 2010/11.

These first two documents will be posted on the University's planning website in mid-February. They will be followed by more detailed briefs to outline short-term budget plans and interim academic priorities required to cover the transition period

from the current fiscal year to May 2006.

Like many publicly funded institutions, Guelph has focused its budget cycle around the provincial operating grant, says Mancuso. That process began to unravel when the timing of the provincial budget or announcements about financial constraints began to vary. In fact, there are many elements of the current budget that already take a longer-term perspective, such as carry forwards that assist units in multi-year planning and cash-flow initiatives spread over several years.

She says adopting a multi-year time frame would expand current strategies that work well, while ensuring that financial decisions are made in concert with academic and research planning instead of following them, as often happens now.

"By tackling the planning and budgeting in concert, we will better position ourselves to be able to make choices and take advantage of opportunities instead of being forced to react to government actions."

Mancuso suggests that primary responsibility for producing the integrated plan would rest with the current Planning Steering Committee, which consists of the president, vice-presidents and representatives of faculty, staff and students. The planning process, however, would begin in each individual academic and administrative unit, where deans and directors would guide the process of planning and consultation.

"Integrated planning is based on collegiality and openness to the planning and budgeting enterprise," she says. "We start with discussions about what we want to do, submit those aspirations to rigorous analysis, then decide how we're going to resource our plans."

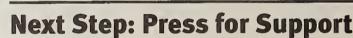
She notes that the detail required for integrated planning is essentially a superset of that needed for a number of similar purposes, such as undergraduate and graduate program reviews, external accreditation and other forms of assessment. Documentation already in place for these assessments will guide the new integrated planning process, she says.

As with most planning exercises, the process can be just as valuable as the final plan, says Mancuso. U of G has been well-served by research, discussion and evaluation in the 1990s that identified learner-centredness, research intensity, collaboration, open learning and internationalism as the University's strategic directions.

She says the adoption of an integrated planning model would provide ongoing renewal of Guelph's commitment to those priorities, help clarify objectives and give U of G better tools to evaluate its progress.

Mancuso acknowledges that academic, research and operational units will all be faced with difficult choices in the short term while the integrated planning process proceeds toward 2006. But she points to current fiscal realities as a good argument for the implementation of a multi-year plan that would make it easier to focus resources and/or personnel on critical strategic areas and initiatives.

For the longer term, she plans to work with deans and department heads to review academic priorities and establish realistic plans that will enable the University to take advantage of any future reinvestment in post-secondary education that may result from the recommendations of the Bob Rae advisory panel.



Continued from page 1

college presidents and officials, and held town hall meetings and round-table discussions across the province with students, parents, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the public. He also launched a website, conducted surveys and solicited feedback.

U of G sent a submission to the Rae panel based on recommendations gathered from the University community. Guelph also provided the Rae panel with its Presidential Task Force on Accessibility to

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Higher Education report.

"We were very pleased to see that many of the recommendations of our task force — including a focus on first-generation university students and upfront grants — were incorporated into Bob Rae's review," says Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), who chaired the accessibility task force.

Some of the Rae report's other suggestions include improving collaboration and transferability between universities and colleges. The University of Guelph-Humber is cited as an example of a successful collaborative venture. The report also suggests not increasing tuition until the student financial assistance system is overhauled and the government has started to make the recommended and significant new investments. Rae also stresses the importance of Ottawa being a more stable funding partner in post-secondary education.

"The recommendations of the Rae report are critical because universities and colleges have not received increases in grants even to cover inflation for more than a decade," says Summerlee. "The challenge now rests with the province. My hope is that the government will

respond affirmatively and quickly to the report so it will have a positive effect both on our next fiscal budget and on future financial planning."

Even if the recommendations are implemented, he adds, it is unlikely that universities will receive funding increases to cover inflation because of other pressing government priorities.

"We are looking at ways the University can continue to improve efficiency to help minimize the effects of inflation, but we also recognize that we will have to cover a significant proportion of these costs for the foreseeable future. That means we have to focus even more on our integrated planning process to determine how to best meet our obligations."

Summerlee says the next step is to engage the University community and the public in pressing the government for increased support for universities and colleges. Along these lines, the Council of Ontario Universities has introduced an information campaign, Think Ontario, to increase public awareness of the role of universities in Ontario's future. "I encourage everyone to write to their elected leaders and to become outspoken advocates for higher education," he says.





CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Full-sized cello, solid wood with ebony fittings, new strings, good tone and volume, good condition, 763-8481.

Nine-piece antique dining room furniture: buffet, china cabinet, table with two extensions and six chairs, Carol, Ext. 54981.

Single bed and frame, bed never used, free delivery in Guelph, Miranda, 519-341-9493 or mtenney @uoguelph.ca.

Yamaha DGX-505 full-sized keyboard, stand, bench, four months old, excellent condition, Peter, Ext. 53676 or pssmith@uoguelph.ca.

2000 Hyundai Tiburon, manual, two-door, four-cylinder, red with black interior, alloy wheels, sunroof, AC, AM/FM stereo, CD/MP3, power accessories, keyless entry, photos at www.uoguelph.ca/ ~jrvincen/car/default.htm; sectional sofa; glass table with four chairs; glass coffee table; new portable dishwasher; entertainment centre, fits 27-inch TV, Jason, leave message at 831-0893.

Antique Eastlake sideboard from the 19th century, dovetailing on drawers, pictures available, mbrunt@ uoguelph.ca.

Norman B-20 Folk Series guitar with hard case, beautiful condition, ahertel@uoguelph.ca.

FOR RENT

Furnished basement level of College Avenue condo, private bath, cooking area, laundry, fireplace, walking distance to campus, non-smokers, no pets, mature grad student or professional preferred, available Feb. 12, \$485 a month inclusive, references required, 837-4378.

Three-bedroom house, three baths, double garage, central air, backs on to conservation and walking trails, 15 minutes from University, reason-

able rent in exchange for care of two cats, available mid-August to mid-December 2005, Melody, Ext. 54337, 836-6264 or m.wren@ exec.uoguelph.ca.

cottage Two-bedroom Southampton, sleeps four, fourpiece bath, fireplace, deck, gas barbecue, available July 2 to 16 and Aug. 6 to 20, \$800 a week, minimum two-week rental, 824-7969.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France. short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, available weekly or monthly, Nicole, 836-6745 or fnmoll@webtv.net.

Fully equipped small cottage on Crystal Beach, excellent winter rates, weekenders welcome, Bob, Ext.

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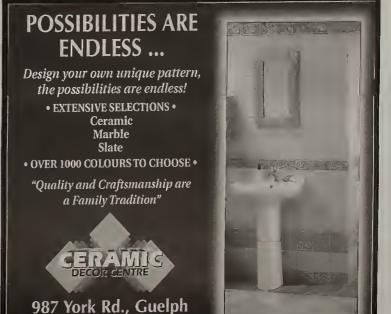
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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

The Theatre in the Trees production of William F. Brown's A Single Thing in Common runs Saturdays until April 30. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$\$3. To order tickets, call Ext. \$4110.

"Tips and Tools for Beginning Storytellers" is the focus of Ann Estill March S from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$30. Registration and payment deadline is Feb. 18.

Gardener Lenore Ross presents "An Ecological Vegetable Garden" March 10. The workshop is offered from either 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$3\$. Registration and payment are due Feb. 24.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's brown bag lunch series continues Feb. 22 at noon with Munro Ferguson discussing the stereoscopic film lune and his career as an animator.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's noon-hour concert series continues Feb. 10 with the Recorde Ensemble presenting music from 1200 to 1500. On Feb. 17, harpist Nathalie Younglai and friends perform. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

A benefit concert in support of Guelph student Jamie Thornley, who was injured in a car accident last month, runs Feb. 11 at the Bullring. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$S.

FILM

The McLaughlin Library and the Central Student Association's free documentary film series continues Feb. 16 with Crapshoot, Troubled Waters and Fog of War. The films begin at 7:1S p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

U of G's international film series, "Beyond Hollywood," continues Feb. 13 with Kadosh, a 1999 film by Amos Gitai of Israel. Prof. Michael Grand, Psychology, will introduce the film at 6:45 p.m. in McLaughlin 384, followed by the screening at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

LECTURES

Cree/Métis writer and educator Kim Anderson presents "Telling Aboriginal Women's Stories" Feb. 10 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 307. The talk is sponsored by the women's studies program and the dean of arts.

Science for Peace is sponsoring a free talk by Sangeeta Kumar of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. in Axelrod 100. Her topic is "Goodbye

Green Pastures: The History and Environmental Impact of Animal Agriculture."

The French studies program hosts a lecture on literature and migration by award-winning Québécois writer Dany Laferrière Feb. 28 at 4 p.m. in UC 441. His works include Le goût des jeunes filles, L'odeur du café and Le cri des oiseaux fous. His talk will be in French. Everyone is welcome.

The School of Fine Art and Music's visiting artist and speaker series features Toronto visual artist Maura Doyle Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 114.

NOTICES

A master's student working with Prof. Ken Menzies in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology is looking for former vegetarians to participate in a study on the role of support from friends and family in maintaining a vegetarian diet. Participation involves a one-hour in-person interview. For more information, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~carae, send e-mail to carae@uoguelph.ca or call 821-2644.

U of G female faculty and staff who love to sing are invited to join No Wrong Notes, a non-auditioned, non-performing, non-instrumental group where the emphasis is on learning through listening, freeing the voice, creating new sounds and enjoyment. The group is open to women of all levels of singing ability and experience, but is limited to 10 participants. For more information, contact Melanie Boyd by Feb. 25 at Ext. S8434 or mboyd@uoguelph.ca.

March 1 is the deadline to apply for the Canadian Bureau for International Education's J. Armand Bombardier Internationalist Fellowships, which are designed to give Canadians an opportunity to study, do research and work abroad. Application guidelines and forms are available online at www.cbie.ca/bombardier/index_e.html.

SEMINARS

Next up in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series is Andrew McGuire discussing "Cex1p: A Novel Protein Involved in the Cytoplasmic Phase of Nuclear tRNA Export in Saccharomyces cerevisiae" Feb. 11. On Feb. 18, Shawn Chafe presents "The Search for Putative Mammalian Homologues to Nuclear tRNA Transport Proteins Found in Saccharomyces cerevisiae." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156

"Autotransporter Protein of Avian E. coli" is the topic of Valeria Parreira, Pathobiology, in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Feb. 11. On Feb. 18, Terry

Spithill of McGill University discusses "The Host-Parasite Relationship in Fasciolosis: F. hepatica and F. gigantica." Sylvia van den Hurk of the Vaccine and Infectious Discase Organization at the University of Saskatchewan explains "Immune Stimulatory Effects of CpG DNA" Feb. 2S. The talks begin at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

The international development seminar series continues Feb. 11 at 4 p.m. with Winnie Mitullah of the Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi, discussing "Integrating Street Traders in Urban Development: Policy Issues and Challenges in Kenya" and Feb. 17 at 3 p.m. with Arjaan de Haan of the U.K. Department for International Development on "Migration and Economic Growth — and Why We Know So Little." The talks are in MacKinnon 238.

The Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences (HBNS) presents Prof. Jim Dickey considering "Biomechanics Research: Role of Robots" Feb. 14. On Feb. 21, Prof. Larry Grovum, Biomedical Sciences, discusses "Cholecystokinin's Mechanisms of Action as a Physiological Signal of Satiety in Pigs — Implications for Treating Human Obesity." The seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Department of Physics seminar series continues Feb. 1S with Fotini Marcopoulou-Kalamara of the Perimeter Institute at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 101.

Next up in the Cognitive Science Group's seminar series Feb. 16 is John Eastwood of York University discussing "The Deployment of Attention to Emotionally Expressive Faces." On March 2, the topic is "Associations, Maps and Modules in Spatial Reasoning" with Sara Shettleworth of the University of Toronto. The talks begin at 3:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 232.

The College of Arts "Research in Progress" series features Prof. Andrew Sherwood, Languages and Literatures, considering "Topophilia and Population Growth in the Jordanian Desert: Investigations at the Nabataean-Roman Site of Humeima" Feb. 16 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 103.

SYMPOSIUM

The Human Nutraceutical Research Unit and the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences graduate student seminar scries present a mini-symposium on "Probiotics: Science, Regulatory Framework, Uses and Benefit." March 2 from 1 to 8:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. It will feature speakers from Canada and the United States. For registration information, visit www.uoguelph.ca/hnru.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services hosts a Design Café Feb. 11 on "Learning Objects: Build or Borrow?" For more details or to register, visit www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

THEATRE

The drama program presents two student-written plays this month, both beginning at 8 p.m. in Lower Massey Hall. Joennosomo by Christina Nardiello runs Feb. 10 to 12, and 1 Really Know You by Matt Adams runs Feb. 16 and 17. Admission is \$5.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Petr Hladik, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program (School of Rural Planning and Development), is Feb. 16 at 9 a.m. in Landscape Architecture 132. The thesis is "Adoption of Networking and E-Business Practices in Rural Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises." The adviser is Prof. John FitzGibbon.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Derrick De Kerckhove, Department of Integrative Biology, is Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 26SA. The thesis is "The Influence of Ecology and Environment on the Genetic Population Structure of Three Freshwater Stream Fishes." The advisers are Profs. Moira Ferguson and Robert McLaughlin.

The final examination of Jennifer Kirk, a PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental Biology, is Feb. 17 at 1 p.m. in Bovey 118. The thesis is "Interactions Between Plants, Contaminants and Microorganisms During the Phytoremediation of Diesel-Contaminated Soil." The advisers are Profs. Jack Trevors, Hung Lee and John Klironomos.

The final examination of PhD candidate Cristina Ionescu, Philosophy, is Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. in MacKinnon 306. The thesis is "Plato's Meno: An Interpretation." The adviser is Prof. Ken Dorter.

The final examination of Susan Yates, a PhD candidate in the Department of Chemistry, is Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. in MacNaughton 222. The thesis is "Protein-Protein Interactions and Inhibition of the ADP-Ribosyl Transferase Reaction of Pseudomonas aeruginosa Exotoxin." The adviser is Prof. Rod Merrill.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Chamber Choir, conducted by Gerald Neufeld, presents the musical poetry of love, loss and joy Feb. 26 at 8 p.m. at St. George's Church. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The ninth annual garden conference

of Guelph and Wellington County Master Gardeners runs Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call the master gardener hotline at Ext. S6714.

The next meeting of the Canadian Federation of University Women is Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Harpo's Banquet Hall, 89 Dawson Rd. Guest speaker is John Tibbits, president and CEO of Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning. Everyone is welcome.

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra presents "Con Amore II," a tribute to Italian music, Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church. An optional dinner will follow at the Italian-Canadian Club for those who have booked ahead. For ticket information, call 763-3000.

Wellington County Museum and Archives will host a Heritage Day Multicultural Festival Feb. 20 from noon to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

The Guelph International Resource Centre will hold its wine-tasting fundraiser, Do Good Wine, Feb. 2S at 7:45 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The evening will feature an official tasting of co-operative wines from around the world, a silent auction and music. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The 10th annual Wyndham House Dream Auction and Gala runs Feb. 26 at Harpo's Banquet Hall, 89 Dawson Rd. A silent auction begins at 7 p.m.; the live auction is at 9:30 p.m. For ticket information, call Carla Bradshaw at Ext. S66S7 or Wyndham House at 763-8040.

The Wellington County branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. at 12S Harris St. Photographer Ted Carter will discuss "Digital Versus Film."

Touchmark Theatre presents Blessings in Disguise by Douglas Beattie Feb. II to 19 at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The next meeting of the Waterloo Wellington Wildflower Society is Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Evergeen Seniors Centre.

The Elora Community Theatre's production of Sandy Conrad's A Year in Edua's Kitchen runs Feb. 11 to 13 and 17 to 19 at the Fergus Grand Theatre. Call 787-1981 for

The Keith Thompson Songwriters' Café runs Monday nights at Manhattans, with featured performers at 7 p.m. and an open stage running from 8 to 11 p.m. All music must be original and performed by the songwriter. For more information, visit www.thesongbirdeafe. com.

at GUELPH

FEBRUARY 23, 2005

VOL. 49 NO. 4 •

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INSIDE: COMMITMENT NEEDED TO REALIZE RAE VISION • LIBRARY MARKS FREEDOM TO READ WEEK



Modern Crops Are Tops

In a comparison of oat and barley varieties grown conventionally and organically, Prof. Duane Falk, Plant Agriculture, has found that modern varieties of these crops do better than heritage varieties under both management types. See story on page 6.

PHOTO BY VINCE FILEY

U of G Considers 4.5% Cut to Base Budgets

"This is a major challenge, and we must find a balanced way of dealing with it"

ACED WITH an estimated \$11-million budget shortfall projected for the coming fiscal year, U of G's senior administration is proposing that a base budget reduction of 4.5 per cent be made to all major units for the 2005/2006 fiscal year. This cut will allow the University to realign its resources to match funding with institutional priorities and areas of cost increase. But even 4.5 per cent may not be enough because that figure is based on a number of assumptions, such as new money from the province, that are yet to be confirmed, said president Alastair Summerlee.

"We have an \$11-million problem, and it will be incredibly difficult for us to deal with it as an institution," said Summerlee. "Costs are growing significantly, faster than our new revenue may. Many of these increases cannot be avoided as they are related to critical deferred maintenance; personnel costs, including pensions and health benefits; capital infrastructure; safety and security services; and utilities and equipment costs. As a result, we have to reallocate resources within the operating budget to support key areas of the institution, continue to support innovation and look for ways to become more efficient. As I said at the president's breakfast in September, we will have to make some hard choices in the days ahead."

U of G is not alone in this, he said, noting that universities across Ontario are looking at making multi-year budget cuts and that all public institutions are facing huge financial pressures.

"Nonetheless, it will be very tough. It will require a tremendous amount of collegiality and effort across the institution, perhaps more than ever before. Sadly, this level of budget reduction will necessitate positions being declared redundant."

The president is inviting the University community to help come up with constructive ideas to achieve cost savings or generate new revenue to mitigate the impact of cuts on per-

sonnel. E-mails requesting suggestions have been sent campus-wide, and advertisements will appear in upcoming University publications and on websites. To date, the president has reviewed close to 200 e-mails offering advice in this regard.

"We will consider all suggestions carefully," he said, "and I hope that some of these suggestions will help us meet our target. This is a major challenge, and we must find a balanced way of dealing with it. We are not ruling out or dismissing any possible suggestions."

He notes that the vice-presidents will work with deans and directors to achieve base funding reductions and identify new ways of increasing revenues from a variety of sources.

At a Feb. 16 town hall meeting on the budget, John Miles, assistant vice-president (finance), explained that Guelph expects to receive a total of \$10.4 million in new revenue for this next budget year, far less than Continued on page 10

Dwivedi Named to Order of Canada

Political scientist recognized for lifetime achievement

BY LORI BONA HUNT

NIVERSITY PROFESSOR emeritus O.P. Dwivedi of the Department of Political Science has been named a Member of the Order of Canada, the country's highest honour for lifetime achievement. He was among 74 Canadians appointed Feb. 9 by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson.

"It's an exceptional honour and great privilege for me to be appointed to the Order of Canada," says Dwivedi. "I am humbled and gratified to be acknowledged in this way by the government of Canada."

In a citation issued by the governor general's office, he was recognized for "contributions that span continents and cultures," including being a scholar and expert in public administration and the environment; advising Canadian and foreign governments; serving as a spiritual counsellor to prisoners and students; leading the local Hindu* Cultural Society; and founding and financing schools and a walk-in clinic in his birthplace in India.

"I believe this has happened to



Prof. O.P. Dwivedi

me mostly because of the work I have done in association with others, and because of the support of my family, friends and students," says Dwivedi. "My students have always been a great source of inspiration for me. I also believe in doing good karma and that doing good karma will pay off at some point in your lifetime."

President Alastair Summerlee

Continued on page 10

Canadian Vets Without Borders to Launch in July

OVC faculty, grads, student part of planning team

BY ANDREW VOWLES

G NEW CROSS-CARDADA humanitarian group of veterinarians to be launched this summer.

The new group, called Veterinarians Without Borders/Vétérinaires sans frontières-Canada (WB-VSF-Canada), will be inaugurated during a gathering to be held in Victoria, B.C., in July. That meeting will be held alongside the annual conference of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association.

Modelled after such long-established agencies as Médecins sans frontières/Doctors Without Borders, the group will co-ordinate efforts of Canadian veterinarians in responding to international crises such as the Dec. 26 tsunami and avian influenza scares and in addressing longer-term problems involving human and animal health and the environment.

"A lot of veterinarians are doing international work," says Prof. David Waltner-Toews, Population Medicine, who is serving as the group's acting CEO until its first general meeting this summer. "None has been co-ordinated at the national level."

The group will bring together Canadian veterinarians keen to help in international projects that involve human and animal health and ecosystem health. Those projects might see a team of veterinarians dispatched, for example, to help mitigate human health impacts from a

Continued on page 8





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from the president

Rae's Vision Needs Money, Commitment to Be Realized

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

T HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS since Bob Rae unveiled his much-anticipated review of Ontario's postsecondary system. Since then, like many university presidents, I have actively pursued advocacy through the media and via contacts with politicians and bureaucrats at Queen's Park. The recommendations contained in the report have the potential to preserve and transform higher education in the province.

Now that we've all had a bit more time to digest and reflect on the report, there are a few key points to keep in mind. In a number of areas, a lot more information is needed before we can comment on the suggestions and before we will be able to advance some of Rae's bold visions, especially his recommendation for a radical shift in student aid and, potentially, for a change in the tuition and fee structure.

This province faces a problem of access for students from lower-income families, and we absolutely need a grant system so those students won't have to wonder if they will get financial aid when they reach university age. But we must also recognize the challenges facing students in the middle-income group, and we cannot let tuition or fees rise without ensuring there will be adequate support for these students as well.

The report also incorporated many recommendations - including upfront grants and a focus on improving opportunities for aboriginal and first-generation students — that came directly from our Presidential Task Force on Accessibility to Higher Education, which we provided to the seven-member Rae panel. I was also pleased that Rae cited the University of Guelph-Humber as an example of a successful innovative collaboration.

Our submission to the Rae review was just one part of the incredible consultative process that produced this report. Over the past 10 months, there were meetings with university and college presidents and officials, community town hall sessions across Ontario,

round-table discussions, surveys, websites and written submissions.

The result of this endeavour is essentially a blueprint. The Rae report rolls out the prospect of a bright future for post-secondary education, and by following the recommendations in the report, Ontario can build a strong and solid educational structure.

But however skilfully drawn the blueprint is, it will remain nothing more than a vision without money, commitment and effort. Turning Rae's drawing into reality will require hard work and struggles, compromises and amendments, and the melding of numerous ideas.

We will need a substantial commitment from the Ontario government - at least \$1.3 billion in new money just to maintain quality and improve accessibility. The province must also commit another \$300 million to overhauling the student assistance program, in addition to increasing multi-year funding for all students and to restoring funding to levels comparable with those of Canada's other nine provinces.

The challenge will be that the government has other budget priorities such as health care, power, the environment and the rest of public education. But our universities have seen a huge shift in quality, with fewer classes and larger faculty/student ratios and less money for critical research. We must communicate the importance of investing in education and research, for it is only through new knowledge and discoveries that this province can prosper. We must have a higher-education system that is accessible, equitable and of excellent

Each of us must press the government for increased support for higher education. We must become outspoken advocates for our universities and colleges. I ask you to write to our elected leaders insisting that they take action.

For without real commitment and effort, the Rae report will remain only a blueprint, a work at risk of being rolled up and tucked away. We must not let that happen. It is time to start laying the groundwork.

GOT IDEAS FOR BUDGET SAVINGS?

President Alastair Summerlee invites U of G faculty, staff and students to offer constructive ideas to achieve cost savings or generate new revenue to support the University's operating budget for 2005/06 and beyond.

U of G faces an \$11-million budget shortfall, and our immediate objective is to identify savings and revenue opportunities to meet 2005/06 budget goals.

The president and vice-presidents will consider all suggestions carefully, in consultation with the appropriate unit director and Financial Services.

Send your ideas to the president through campus mail, by e-mail to ideastosave@uoguelph.ca or by fax to 767-1693.



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U OF G MARKS WORLD FAITH WEEK FEB. 2B to MARCH 4

The Multi-Faith Resource Team is celebrating World Faith Week Feb. 28 to March 4 with a series of free events designed to explore different faith traditions. On Feb. 28, the documentary Trust Me: Shalom, Salaam, Peace! runs at noon and 7 p.m. in Room 335 of the University Centre. The film explores the fears that children encounter and overcome during a week together at an interfaith camp. On March 2, Brian Carwana, director of the Encounter World Religions Centre, will discuss the teachings and practices of various world religions at 7:30 p.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre. On March 4, the World Day of Prayer, everyone is invited to stop by the Raithby House porch, where there will be a place to offer prayers of hope. For more information, call Ext. 58909, send e-mail to faith@ uoguelph.ca or drop by Room 100 of Raithby House.

RIDGETOWN COLLEGE GEARS UP FOR ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

The annual student-run Ridgetown College Review Open House runs March 18 and 19. Events will include campus tours, student livestock shows, a staff swine show, a "kiss the pig" contest, a talent show and public speaking, demonstrations of tree climbing and square dancing, an auction, a plant sale, forage and machinery shows, a pet fair and farmer Olympics. The open house runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days.

FOOD SAFETY FOCUS OF TALKS

U of G is among the sponsors of "Towards a National Food Safety Strategy," a one-day symposium to be held March 21 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting is designed to provide a forum for food safety specialists to meet and share information to improve the food safety strategies in their various organizations and ultimately contribute to the development of a national food safety strategy. For more information, visit the website www. peopleware.net/index.cfm?siteID= 323&eventDisp=NFSSM&clientid

VP OF CANADIAN TOURISM COMMISSION TO SPEAK

The 2005 MBA Lecture Series presents Tom Penney, vice-president of planning and product innovation and enhancement for the Canadian Tourism Commission, March 15 at 10 a.m. in Room 129 of Macdonald Stewart Hall. He will discuss "Strategic Issues in Canadian Tourism.'

In Memoriam

Eminent evolutionary biologist Ernst Mayr, a 1982 recipient of an honorary doctor of science degree from U of G, died Feb. 3 in Bedford, Mass., at the age of 100. Considered one of the most influential scientists of the 20th century, the longtime Harvard University professor was known for his work on speciation and his contributions to the modern evolutionary synthesis of the 1940s.

Former Environment Minister Kicks Off Hammond Lectures

Symposium will feature speakers and panel discussion on environmental issues

HARLES CACCIA, former federal environment minister, will visit U of G as the keynote speaker for this year's Kenneth Hammond Lectures on Environment, Energy and Resources. Now senior fellow with the Institute of the Environment at the University of Ottawa, he will speak on "Politics and the Elusive Goal of Sustainable Development: Links to Environment and Health" March 11 at 7 p.m. in Room 104 of Rozanski Hall.

On March 12, a day-long symposium will feature speakers and a panel discussion on environmental issues from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Trophy Room of the Cutten

Both the lecture and the symposium are free and open to the public. Because seating for the symposium is limited, registration is required at hls@uoguelph.ca.

"What we're trying to do is make the connection between the environment and health," says Prof.

Josef Ackerman, associate dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences (FES).

The event is sponsored by FES, an interdisciplinary teaching and research unit that involves five colleges on campus, and the University. The Hammond Lectures were launched in 2000 to honour Kenneth Hammond, founder of Hammond Manufacturing and a former member of the University's Board of

The 2004/05 series is called "Environmental Science and the Health of Terrestrial Environments."

Caccia will discuss sustainable development, particularly in fisheries and forests. He will also talk about economic and political aspects of environmental issues, including the Kyoto climate change agreement. The accord, which came into effect in Canada this month, aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

A member of Parliament from

1968 to 2004, Caccia was environment minister in 1983 and 1984 in the former Trudeau government, then became Liberal opposition critic on environmental issues.

Retired land resource science professor Ward Chesworth leads off the March 12 symposium at 10 a.m. with a talk called "Ill Fares the Land." Murray McBride, a crop and soil scientist at Cornell University, will discuss "Neurodegenerative Diseases and the Environment: The Soil-Health Link" at 11 a.m.

The afternoon session begins at 1 p.m. with David MacLean of the University of New Brunswick presenting "The Health of Forests and Insect Outbreaks 1

Dominique Charron, senior epidemiologist with the food-borne, water-borne and zoonotic infections division of the Public Health Agency of Canada, will speak on "Ecosystems and Health" at 2 p.m.

The panel discussion begins at

U of G Library Celebrates Freedom to Read Week

Members of the University to read from their favourite banned books

OF G IS RAISING awareness of dom to Read Week acknowledges intellectual freedom by celebrating Freedom to Read Week throughout February.

Sponsored by the Book and Periodical Council of Canada, Freedom to Read Week encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom, which is guaranteed under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"Our campus is a place of learning and exploration and a safe environment in which to challenge those who stifle freedom of expression,' says chief information officer Michael Ridley. "Participating in Freethe library's commitment to the unfettered expression of all ideas."

On March 1 from noon to 1:30 p.m., McLaughlin Library will host "Banned Out Loud" in the Williams Café area. Following opening remarks by Ridley, members of the University community will read short passages from their favourite banned books. Participants will include Prof. Ann Clark, Plant Agriculture: College of Arts dean Jacqueline Murray; Prof. Sky Gilbert, English and Theatre Studies; and U of G graduate Dave Hudson.

During February, display cases

and a shelf of banned books on the first floor of McLaughlin show why the freedom to read is crucial to academic libraries, says Ridley.

"There are schools in North America where students are forbidden to read Huckleberry Finn, To Kill a Mockingbird or The Handmaid's Tale because some members of society have determined their content is inappropriate. Libraries need to be places where all forms of intellectual expression can be explored, even those that are deemed unpopular or unconventional."

For more information, visit the website www.freedomtoread.ca.

Guelph to Co-Host Literary Festival

HE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH is helping to bring Canada's 14th annual national gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered literary festival, Wilde About Sappho, to Guelph March 6.

Four renowned writers -Guelph professors Dionne Brand and Sky Gilbert, Anna Camilleri and R.M. Vaughan — will give readings at 3 p.m. at Chalmers United Church, then will attend a gala reception at The Bookshelf.

This marks the first time a smaller city will be included in the Wilde About Sappho national tour. Sponsored by the Lambda Foundation, a national charitable organization, the tour helps raise funds to create university scholarships in lesbian and gay studies.

U of G is hoping to find 15 individuals or groups willing to pledge \$1,000 each, which will be matched by the Lambda Foundation, to create a \$30,000 endowed scholarship for lesbian and gay studies at Guelph. The award will be open to U of G students in any discipline.

"I am very pleased to do what I can to support the Lambda Foundation Scholarship for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the University of Guelph says Gilhert. "It will provide not only funds but also the crucial affirmation that queer research is an important area of study. This scholarship will increase the awareness of human diversity at Guelph, and it happily opens up international possibilities for the expansion of human knowledge."

Gilbert, a playwright, director, filmmaker and writer, received Dora Awards for his plays The Whore's Revenge and Suzie Goo: Private Secretary. Brand, a Governor General's Award winner for poetry, has also received the Pat Lowther Award for Poetry and the Trillium Award for

Camilleri is a writer, performance poet and curator who lives in Toronto. Vaughan, a native of New Brunswick, is the author of six books, a dozen plays and hundreds of essays on popular culture and art.

Tickets for the readings and gala are \$40. The cost of the reading alone is \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Tickets are available from the U of G drama office at Ext. 53147 and The Bookshelf.

At the annual conference of the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT) last weekend in London, three Ontario Veterinary College staff members were honoured. ICU technician Kathy Taylor was named OAVT Veterinary Technician of the Year in recognition of her dedication to the humane medical treatment of animals and her excellence in all aspects of her field. Mary Martini. manager of the Central Animal Facility, was named an honorary member of the OAVT, and nurse manager Anne O'Donnell was named an honorary life member.

FIRST JESTIN SCHOLARSHIP **AWARDED IN ECONOMICS**

Fourth-year economics student Kate Allen has received the first Warren Jestin Scholarship in Canadian Economic Policy. The \$600 scholarship goes to the student achieving the highest grade average in third- and fourth-year courses that have a Canadian economic policy component. Warren Jestin, who presented the award, is chief economist for the Bank of Nova Scotia, a former member of U of G's Board of Governors and a Guelph grad. Allen plans to pursue a professional designation in accounting.

PROF CO-EDITS JOURNAL

Prof. Peter Loptson, Philosophy, has been appointed co-editor of Hume Studies, the pre-eminent journal for the study of David Hume and the Scottish Enlightenment and one of the leading journals in philosophy worldwide. During Loptson's five-year tenure as co-editor, the publication's editorial offices will be housed in the Department of Philosophy.

GRAD CAPTURES GRAMMY

Peter Buchanan-Smith, a 1995 BA graduate of Guelph's fine art program and the son of retired animal and poultry science professor Jock Buchanan-Smith, won a Grammy Award for best album packaging for his work on A Ghost Is Born by the group Wilco. Peter Buchanan-Smith, who also wrote a book about Wilco, is the creative director at Paper magazine in New York City.

TECHNICIAN JOINS ACADEMY

Charlotte MacDonald, an ICU technician at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, recently passed a credentialing examination and is now a member of the Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians.

NEWS TEAM WINS SILVER

The Communications and Public Affairs News Service team of Lori Bona Hunt and Rachelle Cooper won a silver Accolades Award for news writing from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The awards were presented this month during a CASE District II conference in Baltimore. District 11 includes colleges and universities in Ontario, the eastero United States (New York, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Washington, D.C.) and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



PhD candidate Jamie Doran, aka "the onion man," has incorporated his investigations of plant growth here at Guelph into a story about a botanist on the moon.

From the Earth to the Moon

Sci-fi tale draws inspiration from summer space research, U of G studies

BY ANDREW VOWLES

AMIE DORAN, a PhD candidate in the Department of Plant Agriculture, hopes to see his name in print soon - not in a scientific journal but in the pages of a leading science fiction magazine.

Early this semester, he mailed off a copy of a short story written last year during a summer research assignment with the International Space University (ISU). The story draws heavily on his U of G laboratory investigations of plant growth in controlled environment chambers for greenhouse and space

Now in the final year of his doctorate. Doran is concentrating on completing his thesis. But he's anxious to hear what the Analog magazine editors have to say about his attempt to link science and fiction.

"I'm hoping it's positive; I think it's a good story

Set in 2037, The Moon Gardener about a crew on a moon base threatened by failure after a solar flare while awaiting news from a piloted mission to Mars. The story is told from the viewpoint of a botanist tending life-support systems and hydroponic growth chambers on the moon. Doran insists he modelled the "moon gardener" not after himself but after one of his favourite TV sci-

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entists: Roy Hinkley, the professor from Gilligan's Island.

Much of the story's science undeniably stems from lab studies of onions, garlic and leeks by Doran, dubbed "the onion man" by his department. His work, which uses growth chambers in U of G's Controlled Environment Systems Research Facility (CESRF), may provide information for greenhouse growers and for possible applications beyond Earth. Onions and other alliums are among some 25 vegetable crops that NASA has been studying for astronaut menus aboard space vehicles or the International Space Station.

Last year, Doran received a \$25,000 scholarship from the Canadian Foundation for the ISU to attend the summer program in Adelaide, Australia. Based in Strasbourg, France, the program brings together international participants in a different country each year to study aspects of space.

Inspired by another student who had written his own work into a poem - and hoping to rein in the Mars-or-bust mentality of several starry-eyed students in the program he hit on the idea of writing a cautionary tale about such a mission.

'They encouraged us to use other skills," says Doran, who is also an illustrator, musician and former high school teacher.

It took him a week to write the story, which incorporated plenty of detail from his studies of growth chambers with his supervisors, Prof. Bernie Grodzinski, co-director of CESRF, and Prof. Mary Ruth Mc-Donald. Doran's fictional scientist even tends a "living wall," a wall of

plants grown hydroponically for food and for maintaining air quality. (Living walls have been studied by environmental biology professor Mike Dixon, director of CESRF, and by Dixon's former graduate student, Darlington, whose Guelph-based company has installed the technology in several office buildings, including the University of Guelph-Humber Building.)

Other students and program instructors enjoyed the story and encouraged Doran to pursue publication. A key endorsement came after he wrote for advice to Canadian science fiction writer Robert Sawyer, who recommended he send the piece to Analog. After rewriting and editing last summer, Doran mailed off the 14,000-word manuscript last month.

While awaiting the result, he's now plotting out another sci-fi tale. And he's illustrating The Moon Gardener along with photographer Jeff Huber, a master's student in the Department of Environmental Biology. (The duo established a film production company last year called Hot Breakfast Films.)

Back in the Guelph lab, Doran is studying the flavour chemistry of alliums. He has an idea for a so-called pungency thermometer, along the lines of a pool test kit, to evaluate the "spiciness" of onions.

"We're using controlled environment technology to develop chambers specially designed to control the flavour of the products," he says, adding that the technology may attract businesses interested in everything from culinary applications to flavour extracts and nutraceuticals. .

says Klironomos. comparisons.

The researchers tested this prem-

Ecosystem Response to Climate Change Is Overvalued, New Study Reveals

Researchers test common scientific assumption about how rising levels of carbon dioxide influence ecosystems

BY LORI BONA HUNT

CIENTISTS TRYING to predict the effects of climate change on ecosystems may be overestimating the responses, according to new research by Prof. Klironomos Department of Integrative Biology.

The findings of a six-year study headed by Klironomos appeared in the Feb. 10 edition of Nature magazine. He and collaborators from Guelph, the University of California at Riverside and the University of Montana were the first to test a common scientific assumption about how rising levels of carbon dioxide (CO,) will influence ecosys-

"Scientists around the world are working to understand the changes in structure and function that will occur in ecosystems 100 years from now in response to this increase,"

Atmospheric CO, is expected to continue to rise at an annual rate of 1.5 parts per million for the next century. A typical research method is to expose current ecosystems to the predicted increases, then make

"The common assumption is that a single-step increase will produce changes similar to a gradual increase over several decades," he says.

ise by observing the response of plants and their mycorrhizal fungal communities to changing CO, concentrations over a span of six years. The fungi used in the study were selected because they are dependent

on plant photosynthate for survival and are therefore affected by changes in CO, concentration. They also grow and reproduce quickly and are easily contained.

"You can't bring a forest into a lab," says Klironomos, "but with fungi, you can keep entire communities in little pots. We could expose them to various CO, levels, and because they have a quick turnaround time, we could compare abrupt versus gradual responses. That's tough to do in most ecosystems."

Over the course of the study, 21 generations of plants and fungal communities were examined. It was discovered that the diversity and functioning of the first generation were significantly altered when there was an abrupt change in climate, but there was little change in subsequent generations. In addition, fungi exposed to gradually increasing CO, levels were much less affected. In fact, diversity and functioning in these communities were similar to those under ambient conditions.

Klironomos savs additional research should be conducted in other models and in intact ecosystems to quantify the observed responses.

"As in most other published research, this study tells us ecosystems will alter in response to environmental change. But, while we should worry about climate change, we should be careful when interpreting the magnitude of responses to environmental change that is more abrupt than what would occur naturally."

Pinwheels to Raise Awareness of Sexual Assault, Safety

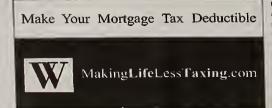
BOUT 4,000 colourful pinwheels have been placed on Johnston Green as part of Sexual Assault Free Environment (SAFE) Week Feb. 28 to March 3, a project run out of U of G's Wellness Centre.

The week-long initiative is intended to raise awareness of sexual assault and the importance of personal safety. The goal of the pinwheel display is to visually illustrate the magnitude of the continuum of sexual assault.

Each pinwheel is a statistical representation of undergraduate students who could potentially be affected directly or indirectly by sexual assault. According to Statistics Canada, one out of every four women and one in 10 men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetimes.

Other events scheduled during SAFE Week include workshops on relationships, displays in the University Centre and presentations by the Wellness Education Training Troupe.

SAFE is focused primarily on the promotion of respectful relationships in the U of G community. It addresses and educates about the issue of sexual assault through collaborative programming initiatives, workshops and innovative events. For more information, call the Wellness Centre at Ext. 53327.



The Times They Are a-Changin'

BY REBECCA KENDALL

MALK INTO ROOM 019 of the MacKinnon Building, and one of the first things you notice is the circa 1970s posters on the walls depicting images and folk art from around the globe. Just when you think you've entered a time warp, you also notice the 19 networked microcomputers, portable computer/projection equipment, document camera, DVD/VHS video equipment, CD player, audiocassette recorders, slide viewing facilities and satellite receiver.

This is the College of Arts Media Centre, and connecting the past with the present is co-ordinator Kathy Hanneson, who has worked in this space for more than 25 years.

As co-ordinator, Hanneson takes care of day-to-day operations such as booking classroom equipment for faculty, scanning material, trouble-shooting, answering questions, ordering media resources and setting up computer software. But she also has to look ahead and help make decisions about what kinds of upgrades are needed for the centre to better serve its patrons.

Hanneson first started working here in 1975, a time when reel-to-reel recordings and Betamax tapes ruled the scene. She was studying French and working part time. Part time became temporary full time just after graduation, and one year later, she was hired on a permanent basis.

Over the past quarter-century, she's seen a lot of changes. In 1975, the centre was called the Language



Although Kathy Hanneson has worked in the same space for more than 25 years, her job has changed significantly.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Lab and was a place for students in language courses to listen to language tapes.

In 1994, the facility became the College of Arts Media Centre, and users today come from all disciplines in the college — languages, fine art, music, English, drama, history, philosophy, Scottish studies and women's studies.

It's the same space, says Hanneson, but because of the ever-changing face of technology, she doesn't feel like someone who's held the same job for 25 years. In fact, she does things much differently these days.

"For example, we rarely hand out tapes anymore to language students. We take the CDs the publishers provide us with, and we turn them into digital audio files and load them on a website. Students can then listen to them on their own computer at home or they can come in here and listen to them."

In addition to the students who use the Media Centre for research and assignments, a growing number of faculty in the College of Arts are using the centre's resources, says Hanneson. That's a reflection of how teaching styles have evolved along-side technological advances, with professors now willing and able to incorporate multimedia into their

lesson plans, she says

Faculty use the centre for everything from preparing PowerPoint presentations to booking laptops and multimedia devices and printing colour copies. Connected to the centre are two classrooms where students and faculty alike can use the centre's resources.

Hanneson says one of the more interesting parts of her job is deciding how to incorporate new technology into the facility. "It's always fun to play with the new equipment and figure out what it can do."

She also enjoys interacting with the students. Countless faces have passed through over the years as both users and staff of the centre. It's a procession of people who stay a few years, then graduate. As a result, Hanneson has had more than her share of goodbyes.

Currently, she's taking her knowledge from the past and present and planning for the future. This summer, the Media Centre will undergo long-slated renovations central to the teaching programs in the College of Arts. Changes will include more space for faculty and staff to work on scanning and editing projects and more computers to allow for the use of digital media. The classrooms are also being redesigned to allow for more flexible seating and use of various types of technology.

"We're going to be making some pretty significant changes over the summer," she says, "so we're trying to look ahead and adapt the ways things are done to how they're going to be."

Taking Research to the Streets

Sociologists look at street kids' survival strategies at home and abroad

BY MURRAY TONG SPARK PROGRAM

As THEY WEAVE their way along darkened paths, bar patrons headed for home and early morning prowlers don't pay much attention to the young girls selling flowers on the street. For them, it's just another part of the after-hours world of Quito, Ecuador's capital and second-largest city.

Young children living and working in the streets are an all-too-common sight in many cities around the world. But for U of G graduate student Vicky Maldonado, who first visited Quito six years ago, it was shocking. Now, she's surveying these street youth about their survival strategies and the social and economic issues they face, to learn more about their lives and to help them get off the streets.

"There are so many children out there who don't have a childhood because they're working when they're so young," says Maldonado, who's studying with Prof. Bill O'Grady, Sociology and Anthropology. "I thought to myself: 'How can the government, or anyone else, accept the fact that there are children on the street?"

After developing an 80-question survey with O'Grady, Maldonado returned to Ecuador - the country of her parents' birth - last summer to hear the stories of these Ecuadorian street children, how they got there and what they're doing to cope. She will use the information she's gathered to compare these experiences with those of Toronto street youth, to see what parallels exist between the street youth of two different continents. From there, she and O'Grady hope to make recommendations to develop better social policies and outreach programs that can address specific issues to help alleviate this worldwide problem.

Maldonado originally thought it would be difficult to coax answers from the street youth, but she found that most of her interview subjects were co-operative and willing to have their stories heard.

"I didn't have to ask them to do the survey — they were eager to do it," she says. "They even thanked me for the opportunity to speak. For them, the reward was that someone cared, that someone listened." That's different from their normal day-to-day existence, far from their homes. In many cases, impoverished young people come from rural highlands to Ecuador's major cities to seek greater opportunities for themselves and their families. Some come down from the mountains with vegetables and foodstuffs to sell in the markets. But if their homes are too far away, they often can't return at night. Instead, they must stay on the streets.

It isn't so different from the plight of many street youth in Canadian cities such as Toronto, says Maldonado. She believes they are among the victims of the widening gap between rich and poor that plagues the entire world and hits Latin America particularly hard.

"There's more of a cycle-of-poverty effect in Ecuador," she says. "It's not as easy as many people think to get off the streets. It's more than a change of clothes."

Most of these street youth, she adds, don't make enough money to get themselves or their families off the streets.

There's also a significant difference, not always apparent, between individual street children, says Maldonado. In Ecuador, they're roughly divided into two groups: niños en la calle (children in the street), who work in the streets for meagre wages but are able to go home at night, and niños de la calle (children of the street), who work and live on the streets. She is also examining the issues and problems confronting each of these groups to get a broader perspective on how kids from different backgrounds deal with street life.

Despite the problems she sees, however, Maldonado says there's hope. She's noticed significantly fewer children living on the streets than she saw six years ago. And for the most part, she's also found that children have an easier time coping on the streets than adults because they're adaptable and become quickly accustomed to street life, remaining logical about why they work there. In fact, she observed that many of the children live busy, varied lives, often working in the morning, then putting on school uniforms and attending classes in the

The street youth receive some

help from agencies and organizations such as the Salesianos (the Salesian Order), an international Roman Catholic organization that builds schools around the world. One of its schools in Ecuador, La Tola School in Quito, holds classes in the afternoon to allow students to work in the morning, offers medical and dental services, and provides special education for children who have never attended school.

Organizations like the Salesianos make a huge difference in many children's lives, but they must continue to grow and expand their services, says Maldonado.

By learning more about the experiences of street youth in different parts of the world, she and O'Grady hope to find more effective ways to reach out to them.

"This type of research has to get back to the people you're studying," says Maldonado. "Hopefully, it will benefit these street children in the form of better social policy and improved outreach program services."

This research was funded by a U of G international field studies grant and the Richard and Sophia Hungerford Graduate Scholarship.



Prof. Nate Perkins says the location of designated smoking areas needs to be re-examined.

PHOTO BY VINCE FILB

Smoking Areas Unsuitable

Designated outdoor spots don't meet the needs of smokers or non-smokers, says prof

BY ALICIA ROBERTS SPARK PROGRAM

are fine, as long as you're not a smoker. These areas are typically in remote, isolated locations — purposely located away from places where non-smokers congregate — which deter smokers from using them. Instead, because they have to go outside, smokers tend to gather near entrances and overhangs, especially in cold weather. Non-smokers end up being exposed to second-hand smoke.

Landscape architecture professor Nate Perkins thinks the whole matter needs re-examining. He's involved in a new three-year study with University of Toronto researchers, funded by the National Cancer Institute of Canada, to pinpoint causes of misuse of designated smoking areas and to try to make those areas less contentious for the public. "Designers need to find smokers places that are accessible but not problematic," he says.

Focus group research in 2003 looked closely at smoker and non-smoker interactions and attitudes both groups held in shared environments. After many Ontario cities implemented a smoking bylaw requiring smokers to take it outside, smokers and non-smokers alike have been adjusting to unspoken "rules," says Perkins. As smokers adjust to new routines in new places, non-smokers have also had to adjust.

Preliminary results suggest that smokers are influenced by physical and social factors such as location of seating, sightlines, shelter, types of users and unwritten social norms. Although smokers and non-smokers often don't interact in designated smoking areas, the poor to non-existent design of smoking areas leaves much to be desired, he says.

Perkins believes it's important to understand how social and physical factors influence where and when people smoke in order to improve outdoor smoking areas and reduce undesirable behaviours.

He says design recommendations that come out of this study may increase compliance with non-smoking regulations through the use of visual cues, such as more clearly defined smoking and non-smoking boundaries.

"Smoking is as much a social activity as it is anything else," says Perkins. "We need to determine the kinds of facilities this activit requires, then focus on bringing smokers to those areas."

He hopes that reducing the conflict between smokers and nonsmokers will also influence social norms about smoking, which might result in more attempts to quit smoking and a lower incidence of relapse.

Senior Gamblers Have Strategies to Minimize Risk

Study looks at how and why seniors gamble

BY RACHELLE COOPER

INCE CASINO GAMBLING was legalized in Ontario in 1992, the number of at-risk Canadian gamblers has grown, but in a new study, Profs. Joseph Tindale and Joan Norris, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, have found that most senior gamblers they surveyed use strategies that keep their hobby under control.

Based on this research, the professors have received more funding from the Ontario Problem Gambling Research Centre to create a detailed profile of older adult gamblers in smaller Ontario communities.

Tindale and Norris surveyed seniors in southern Ontario to determine how and why they gamble. Group bus excursions to "racinos"—racetracks with slot machines—that leave in the morning, provide lunch and return by dinnertime, were the most popular form of gambling among the seniors surveyed.

"We found that many seniors see gambling excursions as having the positive function of providing recreation, safe transportation and a way to get out of the house and do things they enjoy," says Tindale.

Because most of the seniors surveyed set strict gambling limits of about \$50 and view gambling as a way to socialize with friends, gambling doesn't affect other activities in their lives and puts them at a very low risk for problem gambling, say the researchers.

"It's probably an effect of being a member of this older cohort," says Norris. "They might be more accustomed to saving money, and they didn't grow up with the gambling venues that are now available."

Of the people surveyed, the majority didn't start gambling until they were at least 50. Tindale says there seems to be a correlation between when they began gambling and when casinos became legalized in the province.

In their newest study, Tindale and Norris want to create a profile of who these older gamblers are in small-town Ontario.

Of the 24 casinos and racetrack slots in Ontario, 21 are located in small or rural communities, where there are larger populations of seniors, fewer entertainment options and less access to social pursuits, says Norris. With the help of United Senior Citizens of Ontario, she and Tindale will survey members of seniors' clubs in seven Ontario rural counties with casinos and/or racetrack slots.

Data will be collected through interviews and surveys to assess gambling attitudes, practices and risk status.

The researchers are hoping to get a sense of how family patterns of gambling affect people's gambling habits and their attitudes towards gambling.

"We want to know if their parents or grandparents gambled to find out if it was an accepted cultural thing or taboo in their families," says Tindale.

Adds Norris: "We do hope there will be some prevention implications. Given the low rates of problem gambling, we figure that older people have something to say to younger people about how to stay out of trouble."

Modern Oat, Barley Outyield Heritage Varieties Whether Grown Conventionally or Organically

OAC prof's study counters suggestions that modern crops perform poorly under organic management

BY ROBERT FIELDHOUSE SPARK PROGRAM

ODERN OAT and barley varieties outyield heritage or historical varieties under both conventional and organic management practices, says Prof. Duane Falk of the Department of Plant Agriculture.

Falk compared the performance of oat and barley varieties under conventional and organic management practices at the Elora Research Station and at the Guelph Organic Test Site. His results are consistent and decisive: modern varieties of both crops do better than heritage varieties under both management lynes.

Proponents of organic farming have suggested that modern crops depend on chemical fertilizers and pesticides to such an extent that they'd perform poorly under organic management. But Falk's results tell a different tale.

"Modern varieties aren't dependent on the crutches of conventional management," he says. "They also do very well under organic management."

Conventional management involves chemical fertilizers and pesticides, categorized as the industrial way to farm, involving mechanization and monocultures. Organic agriculture relies on biological cycles and biological diversity, minimizing the use of manufactured pesticides. herbicides and fertilizers.

This is Falk's third year of research comparing organic and conventional management on a range of varieties. The modern plant varieties he's using were developed through conventional research-driven plantbreeding practices, which are credited with increased yields, disease resistance and other improvements. None of the plants in his research are genetically modified with technologies other than conventional crossbreeding.

He notes that heritage varieties were developed at a time when chemical pesticides were not available and fertilizer was based on animal manures and green manure crops. Falk has found that modern varieties are more disease-resistant and stress-tolerant than their heritage counterparts. They also have a higher yield potential, even under typical organic growing conditions such as higher weed pressure and lower nutrient conditions.

In addition, he found that grain quality measures such as protein content were better with organic management. Falk attributes this to the negative relationship between yield and protein content. Higher yields normally mean lower protein content because it takes more energy to build proteins than starch in the grain.

Certain essential minerals such as copper and zinc were also higher in organically grown crops, but Falk believes the research site's history and soil profile may play roles in these results, and it will take more research to sort out the details and reach final conclusions.

Falk says that barley and oats, whether heritage or modern varieties, are good choices for organic producers because they self-pollinate, maintaining the crop's genetic character. The same can't be said for corn because cross-pollination can unintentionally introduce genetically modified characteristics to organic crops.

This research is sponsored by the OntarBio Organic Farmers' Co-operative and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

It's All in the Genes

Mother and daughter can now call each other 'Doctor'

By Andrew Vowles

RUNCH TIME CAME SIX YEARS AGO
for Margaret Quinton as the
longtime statistical analyst in the
Department of Animal and Poultry
Science (A&PS) entered Room 141 of the
Animal Science and Nutrition (ANNU)
Building to defend her PhD thesis.

Scroll forward to one day earlier this month, and Quinton found herself drumming her fingers again. This time, she was working at her accustomed place before the computer screens in her ANNU basement office. But part of her mind kept drifting upstairs to Room 141. There it was make-or-break time for another doctoral candidate in her department: her daughter Chervl.

Make that Dr. Quinton redux. "I was very confident that she wouldn't have difficulty in the exam because she's very good at what she does," Margaret says with a smile across her desk at her daughter, who's admittedly feeling more relaxed during our interview than she was just a few days earlier.

Cheryl recalls the surreal sense she felt during the defence itself, then the "stunned" feeling that lasted as she joined her mother for a celebration at the University Club. "I kept thinking of things I didn't answer properly." she says.

In what's believed to be a first for A&PS—and probably across the Ontario Agricultural College — mother and daughter have both completed their doctorates within a single department. Not only that, they ended up with the same PhD adviser, Prof. lan McMillan. The ties bind even more tightly: both women also completed their undergraduate and master's degrees at Guelph—albeit in different departments—and both have found themselves pursuing interests in animal breeding and genetics.

Next thing you know, they'll be publishing together. Actually, they plan to do just that — although beginning next month, they'll have to collaborate at a distance. Once her residency papers are in order, Cheryl plans to head to Fin-

land at the beginning of March to take up a three-year research contract.

She studies genetics and selective breeding in fish species used in aquaculture. Her thesis on genetic improvement of Atlantic salmon was based on data collected in a breeding program run by the Huntsman Marine Science Centre in St. Andrews, N.B. She's also worked at the Alma Aquaculture Research Station, where she studied rainbow trout genetics for her master's degree, completed in 2001.

Her work will help commercial breeders improve fish stocks by selecting for breeding pairs based on such traits as size, maturation and flesh quality. Four salmon farming companies based in New Brunswick are members of the Atlantic salmon broodstock development program at Huntsman and use results of studies done by Guelph researchers such as Cheryl and McMillan

McMillan, who has known Cheryl since she was a Guelph schoolmate of his eldest son, says that she, like her mother, has always been "a very resourceful worker who is always interested in the big picture, not just the immediate problem."

He knew Margaret almost as well before she became his



graduate student. As a statistical analyst, she consults with researchers in A&PS and related units. She helps develop research models and analyze results, including designing and running animal breeding simulations. A national genetic evaluation system she helped develop at Guelph is still used by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to ensure the quality of pork processed and sold in Canada.

She had begun her PhD in the department in the early 1990s with the late Prof. Charles Smith. After his death, she switched over to McMillan to continue her studies of genetic diversity and the effects of multiple genes on animals and populations. Donning the student's cap at that point was a bit of a leap because she had completed her master's in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics during the 1980s while raising three children.

Even earlier, she had completed her math undergraduate degree at Guelph. She started working at the University in 1971 in what was then the Poultry Science Department, housed in Graham Hall

Her association with the University extends even further back than her undergraduate years. She was just 15 when her family arrived in Guelph from England, where her father, Arthur Cunliffe, had been a faculty member at the University of Hull. He had come to Guelph to join the Department of Physics at the newly established U of G. Not long after he arrived, however, he was diagnosed with lung cancer and died only a year later.

Margaret's mother, Vera, decided the family would stay in Canada. Trained as a school-teacher in England, she got a job at the U of G Library and completed a master's degree in library science. Retired since the mid-1980s, she now lives in British Columbia, also home to two of Margaret's younger sisters, including Cathy Cunliffe, a former drama student at Guelph.

Cheryl recalls childhood visits to the ANNU Building, amusing herself with the keypunch machines while her mother did contract work for departmental researchers.

She also recalls her parents' perennial emphasis on learning and education (her father, Fred, is a 1972 BA graduate of Guelph's political science program). "You grow up with that, you don't think about it. This feels like a natural place to be."

Adds Margaret, who has a cousin who also studied math before earning a doctorate in beef breeding: "Maybe there's a gene in our family."

Small wonder Cheryl and her younger siblings ended up enrolling here. Her younger sister, Marielle, earned a degree in physics and now works in Ottawa. Their brother, Eric, studied English, although he didn't complete the degree.

After completing her undergraduate studies in 1996, Cheryl worked as a research technician with McMillan, who eventually persuaded her to pursue graduate work.

Both mother and daughter belong to the University's Centre for the Genetic Improvement of Livestock (CGIL), whose members apply animal science, genetics, and math and statistics to improve the breeding odds for animal industries, including aquaculture, beef, dairy, poultry and swine. (Margaret confesses

to a soft spot for pigs in particular, although the longtime vegetarian prefers them off her plate.)

She notes that CGIL is "one of the top institutions in the world for learning these things. People come from all over the world to learn what they teach here."

Asked to explain the mother-daughter phenomenon embodied in the Quintons, CGL director Prof. Jim Wilton says: "They both can get to the heart of a problem, identify the problem very quickly and identify potential solutions."

In Finland, Cheryl will pursue similar work with whitefish at MTT Agrifood Research Finland, located about 120 kilometres outside Helsinki. She hasn't yet mapped out plans beyond the next three years — she jokes that three years is about the life-span of a whitefish — although she suspects she'll wind up in research, perhaps in industry or academia.

Along the way, she aims to turn out that joint research paper, based on simulations using a computer program Margaret has written to model the results of breeding selection under different conditions. Even an ocean away, presumably Dr. Quinton won't have trouble sticking to the project — not with Dr. Quinton, er, Mon, reminding her to do her homework.



Vets Without Borders First in North America

Continued from page 1

crisis like the tsunami in Southeast Asia. In that particular case, says Waltner-Toews, veterinarians might help in anything from controlling wild dogs to providing advice to villagers relocating to newly cleared land. (The group has submitted a funding proposal to the Canadian International Development Agency for internships for post-tsunami assessment.)

Over the longer term, the organization might help assess animal-human health links in developing

countries and design strategies to ward off health problems from SARS to bird flu. The group has already been asked to help with rebuilding animal health infrastructure in northern Uganda after a peace treaty takes hold. The agency has also been invited to work on health and management programs for smallholders in Zimbabwe living on the border between wildlife reserves and farms.

Another example for Waltner-Toews comes from his work with a graduate student on African sleeping

sickness. including preventing spread of the disease among people and cattle in African countries.

"How can we help other countries build up their own capacity to deal with these things?"

VWB will also provide an avenue to fieldwork or internships in international projects for students in Canada's four veterinary colleges. Second-year U of G student Mira Ziolo, a member of the organization's planning group, hopes to help raise students' awareness of international opportunities through the group.

Canadian veterinarians have a wealth of knowledge and resources available to them, and the formation of this organization provides a vehicle through which to contribute to global health," she says.

Planning for the new agency began last November after Waltner-Toews received a call from a company interested in sponsoring such a group. His subsequent phone calls and e-mails to colleagues in Ontario. Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia met with enthusiasm and offers of help, including pro bono legal work by Brian Ausman, a Guelph lawyer and Ontario Veterinary College graduate

In Victoria, Erin Fraser, another OVC graduate working at the Centre for Coastal Health, is organizing the group's July kickoff. French-speaking colleagues, including OVC grads, are helping to make the organization fully bilingual. Founding members include private practitioners, academics from Canada's veterinary colleges, and government and non-government agencies.

In addition to Waltner-Toews and Ziolo, OVC representatives on the 15-member planning group are recently retired clinical studies professor Wayne McDonell and pathobiology professors Andrew Peregrine and Dale Smith.

Ziolo represents the student-run Global Vets program, which fosters international experiences for U of G vet students.

The VWB advisory board consists of president Alastair Summerlee; population medicine professor John McDermott, director-general of research at the International Livestock

Research Institute in Nairobi; and former OVC dean Ole Nielsen.

OVC faculty have long been involved in international projects, from working with urban families raising small-scale livestock to preventing disease spread in Uganda to helping in more effective wildlife management in Zimbabwe and neighbouring countries.

Peregrine, for example, spent 12 years in Kenya before coming to Guelph. He says the organization will allow him and other yets to work together more closely on international projects and share information about their experiences and interests more efficiently.

"All international work has been very piecemeal," he says. "This is a great way of bringing it all together."

Peregrine hopes to work with colleagues in the departments of Population Medicine and Sociology and Anthropology on a tapeworm affecting pigs and humans in Honduras. Another project may see him extend that work along with epidemiologists and parasitologists on animal-borne diseases in Nepal.

Waltner-Toews says the group will work with other relief organizations, likely along the lines of Engineers Without Borders, which runs a student chapter in U of G's School of Engineering. He says the new organization might even work alongside other agencies - helping to stem disease spread among animals, for instance, even as engineers work on improving water quality in a developing country.

This is the first VWB group in North America. Chapters in several European countries work on smallholder livestock issues in Africa under the umbrella of VSF-Europa.



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MIRANDA MAFE

Fourth-year undergraduate student in studio art

Miranda Mafe is a self-professed bookworm. So much so that she "explores" the U of G Library for fun. "Right now, I'm into the fourth floor," she says of the area that houses the art, music and literature sections. She's also a big fan of the second floor for its journal selection



Miranda Mafe

It's in these spots that Mafe finds solace in flipping through

pages and studying the designs that adorn the covers. "I hate to say it, but you should judge a book by its

cover because there are some beautiful books out there." Over the holidays, her library card got some extended

mileage as she checked out 22 books and had to call in her brother to help her transport the heavy load.

When she drags herself away from the library, she plays violin, something she's done for the past 10 years, and has recently started learning tae kwon do. She loves the sport because it's a source of exercise and fun, plus she gets to land some serious kicks

Mafe is also passionate about graphic design and is currently putting together a portfolio of work in hopes of getting accepted into a bachelor of design program after she completes her degree at U of G.

She enjoys spending time visiting Guelph's downtown core and browsing through its eclectic mix of stores. Visiting shops without having to buy art supplies or school items is a welcome change for her. Not surprisingly, The Bookshelf is high on her list of places to stop.

Acting co-director of Student Life and Career Services, staff member at U of G since 2002

Much of Jamie Perry's spare time is spent restoring the 90-year-old home he shares with his partner, Greg. Over the past nine years, he has done all the wiring, had the plumbing and heating systems updated, and taken on drywalling, refinishing the floors, woodworking and knocking out some walls



Jamie Perry

"Now it's less of a hobby and more of a chore," he ad-

Perry's goal for the next year is to have the main floor of the house completed and to bring the artwork out of storage, get some colour on the walls and say goodbye to the vintage furniture. "It's time to grow up and get our house finished," he says

Work is also continuing on the landscaping around

the house. This spring, they'll be replacing the grass and properly arranging the nursery plants to complement the series of 25-foot mature trees planted last year

Although he hasn't had much chance to work on it lately, Perry is also interested in stained glass. He's taken a few courses and made several items as gifts for friends. He prefers to create pieces with contemporary geometric designs and takes inspiration from popular works. A 720-piece replica of a Tiffany lamp remains a work in progress. "I thought: 'Go big or go home."

Whenever possible, he loves to travel. Many of his international trips centre around festivals or periods of celebration. He says times like these bring a unique energy that can't be beat. "All the locals come out," explains Perry. "It's really wonderful." He particularly enjoys Puerto Vallarta on New Year's Eve.

Faculty member in the Department of Political Science

Tim Mau has worn a number of hats since he first set foot on campus in 1988 as a President's Scholar. A five-year Gryphon basketball all-star and PhD graduate of Oxford University, he was senior development manager for the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences and an adjunct professor before becoming an assistant professor last July.



Tim Mau

Away from campus, Mau relives his glory days as a Gryphon athlete by spending time on the courts. "Basketball was a big part of my life back then, and I still try to play now and again," he says. He plays in a competitive eight-team men's league and participates in a few annual tourneys.

Mau also hosts Politically Speaking on Rogers community television. The 30-minute call-in show focuses on local, provincial and federal politics and airs live on Thursday nights.

In addition, he sits on the board of directors for the United Way Community Services of Guelph and Wellington and chairs its fund distribution committee, is involved with the Rotary Club of Guelph and hosts participants of its group study exchange program.

In the past couple of years, he and his wife, Sarah, have welcomed an Icelandic air traffic controller and a respiratory therapist from Auckland, New Zealand, into their home. "I get a lot of enjoyment out of giving back to the community," he says.

Next month, the couple will welcome the birth of their first child. In preparation, Mau has been trying to complete some household projects, including one in the attic that he says is taking way too long to finish.

Recycling Tip of the Month

ELP KEEP potentially hazardous wastes out of the landfill by properly recycling waste electronics and old computers. Due to their multi-component nature, computers must be recycled through a specialized separate program and are not allowed in with regular blue-box waste. To arrange drop-offs or pickups on campus, contact the sustainability co-ordinator at 58129 or recycle@pr.uoguelph.ca. Note that monitors are not www.pr.uoguelph.ca/recycle accepted.



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Ottawa Honours Achievements of Political Scientist

Continued from page 1

says Dwivedi's honour is well-deserved.

"His work on environmental policy and stewardship, both at home and abroad, has contributed greatly to the University and the Guelph community and to many other parts of the world," says Summerlee. "Just as important, Dr. Dwivedi has a compassionate concern for the human condition and has worked tirelessly to bring about change in the world. His being named to the Order of Canada recognizes this deep commitment."

Dwivedi joined U of G in 1967. He taught environmental policy and law and comparative public and development administration and served as chair of the Department of Political Science from 1979 to 1990. He was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1999 and Uni-

versity professor emeritus in 2003.

The author of more than 32 books and 115 book chapters and journal articles, Dwivedi is past president of the Canadian Political Science Association and president of the Canadian Asian Studies Association. He has worked around the world, acting as a consultant to the Canadian government, and served as an adviser with the World Health Organization and the World Bank in India, Papua New Guinea and Mauritius.

Currently, he is spending six months at the University of South Florida in Tampa as the senior research scholar in the Globalization Research Centre. He is lecturing on world religions and international environmental law and serving as a mentor to junior faculty and PhD students.

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University Can't Wait for Ontario Budget: Summerlee

Continued from page 1

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the estimated \$21.5 million it needs to cover the cost increases anticipated in the next budget year. New revenue projections include \$5 million in new funding as a direct result of the Rae review of post-secondary education, but that money has yet to be confirmed. Miles emphasized that, in fact, all provincial funding is uncertain at this point because it's anticipated that the provincial budget won't be announced until April or May. In addition, Guelph won't know its enrolment figures until later in the upcoming academic year.

Summerlee told the estimated 250 people attending the meeting that the University cannot wait.

"We must be fiscally prudent and move forward so we can submit a preliminary budget to Board of Governors in April. Delaying our decision-making runs the risk of making the situation worse and leaves us fewer possibilities for controlling our future."

Summerlee said a significant contributing factor to the shortfall

problem was the fact that the Quality Assurance Fund, which had been created to help universities respond to the increased demand for university spaces because of the double cohort, was cancelled by the government. Based on the fund's promise of three years of base increases to the University's budget. Guelph made a number of decisions related to improving quality, including hiring new faculty and staff. But the fund had delivered only one year of support before the Liberal government came into power and cancelled it.

"Had we received that funding, the situation would have been different," said Summerlee.

In addition, the University has made choices in the past, such as not differentiating tuition, that have affected revenue, he said. "I'm not suggesting we made the wrong decisions, but they help explain our current position."

And it's for this reason that the University, through the provost's office, is in the middle of an integrated planning process, he added.

At the town hall meeting, members of the University community expressed various views about ways to address the problem. Some expressed concern about the prospect of increasing tuition and fees, saying it would put disadvantaged students in an even more precarious position. Others said they were worried that reducing the number of positions on campus would affect services and workload. Still others suggested waiting until the government releases its budget before making any final decisions.

Summerlee reiterated that the University cannot wait for the province and stressed that every effort will be made to ensure that budget decisions are equitable and reasonable.

"There must be a balanced approach to addressing this challenge, and everyone will be affected and everyone must be involved. It will involve some difficult decisions."

AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date	Deadline	Publication Date	Deadline
March 9	March 1	May 4	April 27
March 23	March 15	May 18	May 11
April 6	March 30	June 1	May 25
April 20	April 13	June 15	June 8

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

DP Fit for Life Transport LP 6400 treadmill, assembled and delivered; York Mega Max 3001 Vertical Press Home Gym, exercise chart, partly assembled and delivered; retro '70s kitchen table, two chairs and bench seat with secret storage compartments, blue/white gingham seat covers, photos available, Dawn, Ext. 58678 or dowen@msac.ca.

1997 Honda Civic LX, air, in good shape, 110,000 kilometres, Ext. 53293 or mcojocar@uoguelph.ca.

1993 Oldsmobile Cutlass Sierra, grey, four-door automatic, six cylinders, power, cruise control, air, AM/FM cassette, newer tires, some new parts, good running condition, can be certified and e-tested, 219,000 km, 822-1997 days, 829-2249 eve-

2000 VW Jetta TDI, fully loaded, automatic, CD player, 1,000 km per tank, 143,000 km; recumbent exercise bike, like new, folds for easy storage, mlance@uoguelph.ca.

Wooden picnic table, two boy's bicycles, apartment-size dryer, Jaspreet, Ext. 58220 or 780-1373 after 6 p.m.

AM/FM ghetto blaster with CD player, white Kenmore refrigerator, light floral design sofa, flat dishes in three sizes, 822-0786.

FOR RENT

Three-bedroom century home, walking distance to downtown, private yard, no pets, non-smokers, \$1,250 a month plus utilities; two-bedroom cottage on Sauble Beach, May to September, walking distance to beach, very private,

Two-bedroom lakefront cottage on Ahmic Lake east of Parry Sound, three-piece bath, plus two-bedroom guest cabin with three-piece bath, two boat docks, private treed setting, suitable for two families, \$1,200 a week, 824-1773.

Bright bachelor apartment in heritage building downtown, close to shopping and bus route, laundry in building, available May 1, \$575 a month inclusive, 827-9093.

Room in shared house, close to downtown, on bus route, 25-minute walk to campus, hardwood floors, no pets, non-smokers, \$380 a month plus 1/4 of utilities, Barbara, 822-7360 or bmann@ uoguelph.ca.

Furnished three-bedroom house in south end for long or short term, security, central vac/air, gas fireplace, Jacuzzi, laundry, available May 1, \$1,600 a month plus shared utilities, intelrent@hotmail.com.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in house, close to shopping and bus stop, mature grad student or professional preferred, available March 1, \$600 a month inclusive, Janet. 821-0177

Spacious heritage farmhouse, newly renovated, on Highway 6 two kilometres south of the 401, 1 1/2 baths, five appliances, available April 1, \$1,800 a month plus utlities, Bob, 823-5945.

Fully equipped small cottage on Crystal Beach, excellent winter rates, weekenders welcome, Bob, Ext. 56071

AVAILABLE

Weekend quilting retreats, 822-1354 evenings hmckinno@ovc. uoguelph.ca.

African cichlids, some G1; 100-gallon fish tank with stand, Ext. 52049 or 821-1621.

Proofreading or editing of your thesis, major papers and proposals, reasonable rates, fast and accurate, Rebekah, 766-1418.

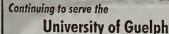
Experienced statistics grad student to help with experimental design, data analysis and hypothesis testing, reasonable rates, 821-9063.

Full-time babysitter, more than 20 years' experience, Rose, 836-9037.

WANTED

Utility trailer, preferably 12-inch wheels and 2,000-pound axle; garden tractor with snowblower, Jerry, Ext.





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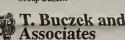
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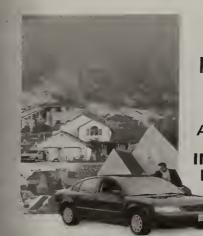
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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

The Arboretum Nature Centre hosts March Break Madness for children aged five to 12 March 14 to 18. Two-hour programs run twice daily at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Cost is \$3 per person. Registration and payment are due March 9. For more information, call Ext. \$2358.

Horticulturist Sean Fox offers a half-day workshop on "The Art and Practice of Pruning" next month. Three sessions are being offered — March 22, 23 or 24 — from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$30. The deadline for registration and payment is March 8.

The Theatre in the Trees production of William F. Brown's A Single Thing in Common runs Saturdays until April 30. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$53. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

ART CENTRE

Prof. Robert Enright, Fine Art and Music, will give a gallery talk on "The Proteans: Artists, Writers and Curators" March 7 at 2:30 p.m. at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre.

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre will host a March Break camp for children aged seven to 11 March 14 to 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Classes will feature hands-on studio activities intended to provide an introduction to a variety of media. Cost is \$185. Register in person during art centre hours: Tuesday to Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's noon-hour concert series continues March 3 with the Orchid Ensemble presenting traditional and new compositions for Chinese and western instruments. On March 10, flutist Prof. Ellen Waterman performs with Scott Thomson on trombone, Joe Sorbara on drums and Ken Aldcroft on guitar. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

Marta McCarthy leads the U of G Chamber Choir in a music theatre showcase fundraiser March 12 at 8 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

FILM

The McLaughlin Library and the Central Student Association's free documentary film series continues March 2 with Fog of War. Eleven Lessons From the Life of Robert S. McNamara and March 9 with Litigating Disaster and Forgive Us Our Debts. The films run at 7:15 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307. On March 3, a special screening of The Take begins at 7:15 p.m. in Thornbrough 1200, to be followed by a questionand-answer session with filmmaker Avi Lewis.

U of G's annual international film series, "Beyond Hollywood," concludes March 6 with Chunhyang, a film by Im Kwon Taek, who is known as the father of new Korean cinema. It begins at 7 p.m. in McLaughlin 384. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free.

LECTURES

The French studies program in the School of Languages and Literatures hosts a talk by award-winning Québécois writer Dany Laferrière Feb. 28 at 4 p.m. in UC 441. He will present "De la littérature au cinéma et vice versa." Everyone is welcome.

The School of Fine Art and Music's visiting artist and speaker series features Toronto visual artist Maura Doyle Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. in MacKingon 114.

The Department of Philosophy presents Dan Garber of Princeton University discussing "Ghosts: Philosophical Reflections on Things That Go Bump in the Night" March 4 at 2:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 121.

NOTICES

Citizenship and Leadership Education in Student Life and Career Services is offering three leadership education workshops next month for graduating students. First up are "Challenge of Choice" March 7 and "Mentoring Relationships" March 8, both running from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in UC 332. On March 9, the "Lifelong Leadership Luncheon" begins at 11:30 a.m. in UC 103. Space for this session is limited, and registration is required by March 4. For more information, send e-mail to leader@uoguelph.ca, call Ext. 52782 or visit www.studentlife. uoguelph.ca/citizenleader.

Brock University is hosting "Building Bridges 2005," a national forum on town-and-gown issues, June 19 to 22. For details, visit the website www.brocku.ca/buildingbridges.

The Human Frontier Science Program provides support for basic research focused on complex mechanisms of living organisms. The deadline for letters of intent to apply for a research grant for 2006 is March 31, 2005. Guidelines can be found on the web at www.hfsp.org/how/appl_forms_RG.php.

U of G female faculty and staff who love to sing are invited to join No Wrong Notes, a non-auditioned, non-performing, non-instrumental group where the emphasis is on learning through listening, freeing the voice, creating new sounds and enjoyment. For details, contact Melanie Boyd by Feb. 25 at Ext. 58434 or mboyd@uoguelph.ca.

The Global Studies Association is calling for papers for its annual con-

ference, to be held May 12 to 15 in Knoxville, Tenn. The theme is "Crosscurrents of Global Social Justice: Class, Gender and Race," Deadline for abstracts is March 15. For more information, visit www.net4dem.org/mayglobal.

The third International Conference on Education and Information Systems: Technologies and Applications EISTA will be held in Orlando, Fla., July 14 to 17. For details, visit www.confinf.org/eisto5.

The International Development Research Centre seeks applications from Canadian graduate students for the Economic and Social Research Consortium Fellowship Program, which supports fieldwork research in collaboration or co-ordination with Peruvian researchers. Application deadline is March 31. For details, visit http://web.idrc.ca/en/ev-70346-201-1-DO_TOPIC.

READING

U of G's writer-in-residence, playwright Guillermo Verdecchia, will give a reading March 2 at 6:30 p.m. in Lower Massey Hall.

SEMINARS

"Immune Stimulatory Effects of CpG DNA" is the topic of Sylvia van den Hurk of the University of Saskatchewan in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Feb. 25 at 1 p.m. On March 4, Prof. Dorothee Bienzle, Pathobiology, considers "What Can Be Learned From the Feline Immunodeficiency Virus?" at 2 p.m. On March 9, Monte McCaw of North Carolina State University discusses "Persistent and Immunosuppressive Infection by PRRS Virus in Swine: A Master of Immune System Manipulation or Disguise" at 11 a.m. The talks will be held in Pathobiology 2106.

The Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences presents Prof. Lorraine Jadeski considering "The Role of IQGAP1 in Tumour Progression" Feb. 28. On March 7, Prof. Arend Bonen discusses "Fatty Acid Transport Across the Plasma Membrane: Does It Really Matter Biologically?" The seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Department of Physics seminar series continues March 1 with Kirill Samokhin of Brock University explaining "Superconductivity Without Inversion Symmetry: The Case of CePt3Si." On March 8, the topic is "What Is the Universe Made Of? The Case for Dark Matter and Dark Energy" with Cliff Burgess of McGill and McMaster universities. The seminars are at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 101.

Next up in the Cognitive Science

Group's seminar series March 2 is Sara Shettleworth of the University of Toronto discussing "Associations, Maps and Modules in Spatial Reasoning," On March 9, Cella Olmstead of Queen's University presents "Animal Models of Drug Addiction: Where Do We Go From Here?" The talks begin at 3:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 232.

The Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series continues March 4 with Michelle Kean discussing "The Role of SNARE-Mediated Membrane Trafficking in Cellular Invasion" at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

SYMPOSIA

The Human Nutraceutical Research Unit and the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences present "Probiotics: Science, Regulatory Framework, Uses and Benefits" March 2 from 1 to 5:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Cost is \$125 general, \$25 for students. For more details, visit www.uoguelph.ca/ hpry

The Toxicology Students' Association is hosting its annual symposium March 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. This year's theme is "Current Issues in Toxicology — New Contaminants, Persistent Problems." For more information, visit www. uoguelph.ca/-toxsa.

THEATRE

The drama program presents *The Vie* by Leanna Brodie March 8 to 12 at the George Luscombe Theatre. Directed by Prof. Ric Knowles and designed by Magi Oman, the play runs nightly at 8 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph presents the 30th annual Bowl for Kids April 1, 2, 3 and 5 at Woodlawn Bowl. The organization is looking for teams of five to collect pledges and participate in the event. This year's goal is to raise \$63,000 to benefit more than 230 local children involved in Big Brothers Big Sisters programs. To register a team, call \$24-5154 or visit www.bigbrothers bigsisters, guelph.org.

The Roots & Shoots speaker series of the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada presents Tara Treanor of the Society for Biodynamic Farming and Gardening in Ontario discussing "Taking Back the Commons" March 3 at 7:30 p.m. at 122 Harris St.

The Sexual Assault Centre is offering a free workshop on "Internet Dating: How to Be Date Safe" March 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. at 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 823-5806, Ext. 32. The Methodist Club and the BME Church host their annual Black History Month church service Feb. 27 at 3:30 p.m. at 83 Essex St.

The Bioenterprise Corporation will host a seminar on "Helping Your Board Make a Difference" March 3 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Register online at www. quickenrollment.com (type "bio" in quick word box and select "events" under event type). Registration deadline is March 1. For more information, call 821-2960.

The Guelph Spring Festival is looking for donations for its annual giant garage sale, slated to run March 18 and 19 at Harcourt Memorial United Church. Items can be dropped off at the church March 14 to 17 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 821-3210.

The Two Rivers Neighbourhood Group will hold a town hall meeting Feb. 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 122 Harris St. For information, call 837-4248.

In celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of USC Canada, its new executive director, Susan Walsh, will be guest speaker at Guelph's annual USC dinner March 7 at Guelph Tandoor House. She will discuss "Resilience, Rights and Respect: U5C's Building Blocks for Sustainable Development." For tickets, call Anne Shute at 821-3833. Walsh will also speak March 6 at the 10:30 a m. service of the Unitarian Congregation of Guelph, 122 Harris St. Her topic is "Staring Adversity Down: 60 Years of Resilience Work With People on the Margins.' Everyone is welcome.

The Guelph International Film Festival will screen Change From Within Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at The Bookshelf ebar. The film's director, Peter Farbridge, will be in attendance. All proceeds support the festival.

At the next meeting of the Canadian Federation of University Women Guelph March 22, elementary school teacher Philomena Bonis, who recently taught English to Chinese rocket scientists at the International Space University in Australia, will discuss "To Be an Astronaut." The meeting begins at 8 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre, 75 Cardiean St.

The BreastStrokes Dragonboat team hosts the Bourbon Street Ball, its fourth annual fundraiser dance, Feb. 26 at 9 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. For ticket information, call Ext. 53350.

The 10th annual Wyndham House Dream Auction and Gala is Feb. 26, beginning at 7 p.m. at Harpo's Banquet Hall, 89 Dawson Rd. For ticket information, call Ext. 56657 or 764-8040

at GUELPH

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INSIDE: EVENTS TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY . LISTENING GOES A LONG WAY







Going, Going, Gone

It was a close shave all round when three members of Campus Security Police offered up their heads to three razor-wielding senior administrators March 2 in the University Centre courtyard. But the hair-raising experience was all worth it, say Robin Begin, manager of operations, and officers Jim Armstrong and Bryce Kohlmeier, because it enabled them to collect more than \$3,000 for tsunami relief. Pictured from left to right are Kohlmeier with Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration); Armstrong with Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs); and Begin with president Alastair Summerlee.

PHOTOS BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Helping Rural Canadian Women Tackle Change

SSHRC funds research alliance intended to enrich lives of women in rural communities

BY LORI BONA HUNT

Canada to influence public policy, manage their unique challenges and create change is the focus of a \$1-million national research project headed by Prof. Belinda Leach, Sociology and Anthropology. She is leading a team that has received a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for the Rural Women Making Change Research Alliance.

"We are doing something that has never been done before," says Leach, who holds the University Research Chair in Rural Gender Studies. "We are bringing together a team of community and academic experts from across the country to specifically look at the work and life issues that are affecting and challenging women in rural Canada."

David Emerson, minister of industry and minister responsible for SSHRC, says Leach and her team "are embarking on research that will have a direct impact on the lives of rural women and the communities they live and work in. Indeed, the benefits of knowledge generated through research extend to all areas of Canadians' lives."

A blend of advocacy, research and knowledge dissemination, the alliance will involve professors, leading feminist scholars, national unions, volunteers and advocates and community organizations across Canada. "We hope to change the context of rural living in such a way that it supports women living, working and staying in these regions, thereby improving their lives and enriching these communities," Leach says.

Rural life in Canada continues to change, and women seem to be bearing the brunt of rural economic transformation, she says. Women are simultaneously dealing with disappearing social services, declining farm incomes and fewer employment and schooling options. Many hold down full-time jobs both on and off the farm while continuing to be the primary caregivers of children and elderly relatives.

In addition, in some rural communities, services once offered by various levels of government are now provided by women through local resource centres on a volunteer

"Yet the absence of gender analysis of the changes taking place in rural Canada is quite striking," says Leach. "We wanted to do something about that. We hope to engage women more directly in what's happening to them and to their communities, and to recognize their capacity to create change in a meaningful

The alliance will identify challenges specific to rural women and examine better approaches to meeting needs. It also aims to help empower them to influence public policy at all levels of government. Researchers plan to work with women working in local resource centres and in the auto-manufacturing, forestry, mining, food-processing, service and agricultural industries, including migrant work-

The alliance is the outcome of more than three years of national partnership building and includes representatives from the Canadian Auto Workers Union, the National Farmers Union, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Women's Employment Resource Centre and Women Today of Huron, as well as academics from U of G, the University of Western Ontario, University of Victoria and York University.

SSHRC is providing the funding

over five years under its Community-University Research Alliances program with rural women, policy-makers, researchers and community agencies.

"Women play an essential role in the vitality and survival of Canada's rural communities, yet they also bear the brunt of these regions' economic realities," says SSHRC president Marc Renaud. "This research investment will build sustainable alliances among federal and provincial ministries, businesses, municipal government and the organizations dedicated to improving the lives of rural women and their families."

The alliance will be run out of the University's Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being.

Take a Step in the Royal Direction

Annual student-run College Royal open house gets ready to roll

OLLEGE ROYAL WEEKEND, the largest university open house event in North America, runs March 19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and March 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year's theme is "Take a Step in the Royal Direction." All events are free and open to the public.

Sarah Nichols, the 2005 College Royal celebrant, believes this is an event that makes U of G distinct as a school with a strong agricultural background. "It's important because it upholds the timage of the University, shows prospective students all the different options available here and shows the community the kinds of things we're involved in," she says. This year's open house features traditional favourites such as the livestock show, logging competition and dog and cat shows, as well as a photography contest and Gryphon Jeopardy. New this year are an Ultimate Frisbee competition and a junjor tractor rodeo.

The weekend will also feature numerous displays and activities by student clubs and individual departments, a juried art show in Zavitz Hall, hands-on teddy bear surgery for kids at the Ontario Veterinary College, live entertainment and a chemistry magic show.

Another College Royal tradition is the annual Curtain Call production, with this year's company presenting Chess March 17 to 19 at 8 p.m. and March 19 at 2 p.m. at War Memorial Hall, Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Central Student Association office or at the door.

Also scheduled are a number of team competitions, including flower arranging, square dancing and pancake flipping. In addition, a lecture series will run throughout the weekend, featuring talks on a variety of topics being studied at U of G, such as food science, children's theatre and nutrient waste management.

A complete list of College Royal events is available at www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca. Printed programs will also be available on campus.

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senate University Can't Delay on Budget Decisions: Summerlee

SENATE HEARD AN OVERVIEW of the 2005/2006 Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities budget at its monthly meeting March 1.

President Alastair Summerlee and John Miles, assistant vice-president (finance), presented the budget and answered questions from Senate members. Summerlee said U of G is facing an \$11-million shortfall and is proposing a base-budget cut of 4.5 per cent.

Several Senate members asked why the University is facing a budget shortfall this year that is about twice the size of last year's.

penses go up by about five per cent a year "even if we are standing still." That, coupled with significant costs of dealing with deferred maintenance, contributed to the problem.

He also said U of G won't receive the \$9 million in base-budget funding it was expecting from the provincial Quality Assurance Fund, which was created to help universities respond to the increased demand for spaces due to the double cohort.

The president noted that the government doesn't

cover inflationary increases, but utilities and other ex-

"The University has done a tremendous amount to change the revenue side of the institution," Summerlee said. "That is why we are not in as bad a situation as we would otherwise be."

It was suggested that U of G delay making any decisions until after the province releases its budget this spring because there's a feeling of optimism about government support for the first time in years thanks to the Rae review.

Summerlee noted that Guelph is anticipating \$5 million in new funding as a result of the Rae review and has built that money into the budget, even though it has not been confirmed. He added that U of G must present a budget to Board of Governors in April because its fiscal year starts May 1. Delaying decisions until after the provincial budget is announced would only make the situation worse, he said.

The president added that U of G is engaging in a campus-wide integrated planning process headed by the provost to make permanent changes that will help the University address in a more strategic manner future budget shortfalls.

"We must restructure and significantly change the way we do things," he said.

In other business, Senate approved a proposed slate of members for the review/selection committee for the dean of graduate

Chaired by Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), the committee will consist of OAC dean Craig Pearson; Prof. Teresa Crease, Integrative Biology; Prof. Gauri Mittal, Engineering; Prof. Richard Reid, History; Saraya Elwin, a student in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences; and Nancy Schmidt of the Learning Commons.

Senate also approved adding a "course only" work option to the MBA program offered through the Faculty of Management. Senate was told that this will provide another option for students and make Guelph's offerings more consistent with other MBA programs in the

Ceremony Honours Collaboration With Chippewas of Nawash

PRESIDENT Alastair Summerlee met with Chippewas of Nawash Chief Ralph Akiwenzie March 1 to ceremoniously recognize in their partnership appointment of Prof. Stephen Crawford in the Department of Integrative Biology.

Recognizing the relationship between western science and aboriginal traditional knowledge, the Chippewas of Nawash are investing an annual sum equalling 50 per cent of Crawford's salary, in part for his expertise in the day-to-day management of their fisheries and for undertaking fisheries ecology-related research. In return, the Nawash will provide access to waters, boats, fish-

ing sampling, biological samples and other materials, as well as advice and infrastructure to support the educational and research development of graduate students at U of G. The legal agreement was signed Sept. 1, 2004

First in English and later in Oiihwa. Akiwenzie thanked Summerlee for his support and willingness to assist the people of Nawash in this endeavour. He also spoke of his optimism in the work the two parties are undertaking.

"Educational and environmental knowledge is passed on through the language of our people," Akiwenzie said of the significance of addressing Summerlee in Oiihwa.

The chief noted that the Nawash have had a long association with Guelph and said knowledge to be gained through this faculty agreement will benefit all sides.

"Science doesn't have all the answers" he said

Summerlee noted that the co-operative agreement "will benefit both the University of Guelph as an institution of higher learning and the people of Nawash who are working to manage their fisheries. We are honoured to be part of this important process.

It's believed that this is the first time a First Nation has entered into a faculty agreement with a Canadian university.

Events Spotlight Access for Students With Disabilities

RAISING AWARENESS about Minds." It's designed to draw attendencessibility to campus build-tion to the issue of access on campus ings and facilities for students with disabilities is the focus of an events-filled week under way at the medical disabilities. University.

sponsored by Residence Life and the Centre for Students With Disabilities, runs to March 11 on the theme

for people with visual, hearing, mobility, learning, psychological and

On March 9, student leaders who Accessibility Awareness Week, spent a day using a wheelchair on campus will discuss their experiences. March 10 will feature a presentation by a volunteer for the "Opening Doors Through Opening Paralympics in Greece. Both events public.

run from 7 to 10 p.m. in Room 232 of the MacKinnon Building

On March 11, Jeff Adams, a four-time Paralympic gold medallist, sportscaster, motivational speaker and accessibility advocate, will speak at 10:30 a.m. at the Arboretum Centre. His talk is sponsored by the Human Rights and Equity Office.

All events are free and open to the

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THEY ARE THE CHAMPIONSI

At the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) women's basketball championships in Guelph on the weekend, U of G captured its first provincial title in 25 years - before any of the team members were even born, says head coach Angela Orton. In their 16th straight win, the Gryphons upset the OUA defending champions, the Ottawa Gee-Gees, 87-68. Five Gryphon shooters hit double digits during the game; top scorer was Sharon Hollinshead with 21 points. The Gryphons are now headed to the national tournament, which runs March 11 to 13 in Winnipeg.

EXHIBITION MARKS ART CENTRE'S 25TH YEAR

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre celebrates its 25th anniversary with a major exhibition of historical and contemporary Canadian masterworks, "Treasures From the Collection," selected from the art centre and U of G collections. Together, the collections include more than 5,000 works and represent a 300-year survey of Canadian art. The exhibition opens with a reception March 24 at 7:30 p.m. On March 29 at noon, art centre director Judith Nasby will give a brown bag lunch talk on the show, which runs until July 10.

CAMPUS DAYS MARCH 16 TO 18

U of G expects to welcome up to 5,000 prospective undergraduate students and family members to Campus Days March 16 to 18. Activities will include a student panel, academic information sessions, resource displays and campus walking tours. Hundreds of U of G faculty, staff and student volunteers will be on hand to talk about all facets of university life, ranging from academic programs to campus services and organizations. From March 16 to 18, parking lots P14 and P15 will be reserved for Campus Days visitors. Members of the campus community are encouraged to park in P13, P18 and P19 because parking spaces will be limited. For more information, call Hilory Gasewicz at Ext. 56716 or visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/admissions/campusdays

OAC LECTURE SERIES HOSTS OXFAM, CIAT EXECUTIVES

The Ontario Agricultural College's public lecture series presents Rieky Stuart, executive director of Oxfam Canada, discussing "Is Canada at a Turning Point in Our Relationship With Developing Countries?' March 16 and Joachim Voss, director-general of the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture, presenting "Attacking Poverty Through Rural Innovation and Environmental Reconstruction" March 23. Both lectures begin at 5:30 p.m. in Room 1714 of OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. For more information, call Ext. 56832.

CSA ELECTIONS SET

The Central Student Association will hold its annual general elections March 14 to 18. The last day for campaigning by candidates and referendum groups is March 13.

Gravesite Honours Donors

U of G plot is final resting place of individuals who donated their body to science



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAURICE NELISCHER

BY ANDREW VOWLES

ORE THAN 30 YEARS have passed since George Alexander (Alec) Russell's untimely death. Last year, his family got a chance to properly say goodbye at the refurbished U of G cemetery plot in north Guelph where he and more than 170 other individuals who donated their body to science are buried.

Now, Russell's grandson hopes others whose family members were interred at the University gravesite in Woodlawn Memorial Park will visit and find the same kind of closure. That's also the hope of faculty and staff who led a project last summer to rejuvenate the long-disused site in the cemetery.

"That's one thing we hope for other families," says Jason Russell. "We hope they'll be able to go there. We would like this to be public knowledge."

U of G used the Woodlawn plot between 1968 and 1982 to inter the cremated remains of bodies used in the University's long-running human anatomy course.

Today, 150 to 190 students in human kinetics and biomedical science enrol each year in that two-semester course. It's the only course of its kind outside a medical school in Canada that permits undergraduate students to do full-body dissections of human cadavers willed to science.

Since 1982, all cadavers intended for the course have come from the University of Western Ontario, and their remains have been returned to London for interment.

U of G's Woodlawn plot is a triangular island at one end of the cemetery, shaded by tall evergreens. Since 1968, a single grave marker has stood on the site, along with a series of smaller stones marking a number of pertinent years for the course.

Last summer's refurbishment of the plot resulted from some amateur sleuthing by Jason Russell, now working on his PhD in Canadian labour history at York University.

He was only two when his grandfather died at age 55. Long plagued by heart trouble, the lifelong Niagara-region resident succumbed to a fourth heart attack in 1971. His remains were interred in Woodlawn April 26, 1972.

Family members knew his body had gone to U of G, but they had lost track of what happened to it after that.

"There was a memorial service, but the whole process of grieving him was never completed properly," says Jason. "It's been something we have wondered about over the years."

His curiosity piqued by his history studies, he contacted the Ontario coroner's office in early 2003 and learned of the Woodlawn site.

That spring, he visited Guelph with his father, Tom, and then one-year-old son, Thomas. Standing over the spot where his grandfather's ashes had remained for more than three decades, Jason says he and his father both felt relief.

"There were quite a few tears. I could see the relief on my dad's face. There are a lot of things he wishes his father could have seen."

Jason contacted the University in summer 2003 to ask about placing an individual memorial on the site. "The University from the start was receptive to this," he says.

Besides the existing monument, whose inscription pays tribute to individuals who contributed to "the advancement of medical science," a new granite marker was placed on the site with space intended for inscribed brass plaques for each individual in the plot. So far, only Alec Russell's name is on the stone, but Jason hopes that others will follow. Also installed were new stone markers to complete the missing years when individuals' remains were interred.

Last summer's project also in-

cluded refurbishment of the plot itself by Prof Maurice Nelischer School of Environmental Design and Rural Development. He met with Prof. Terry Graham, chair of the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, and Paul Taylor, the cemetery's general manager, to discuss the context and design for the space. Then he worked with cemetery staff to level the plot and install a 11/2-foot-high stone wall and a raised bed for shade perennials, including hosta, astilbe and periwinkle.

"It was important to give the plot a solid presence and create something that would fit within the context of a beautiful cemetery," says Nelischer, whose earlier projects have included cemetery landscaping master plans. Designing an individual plot was a new project for him. "The plot now stands out and serves as an anchor for that part of the cemetery."

Vicki Hodgkinson, executive assistant to the president, who was involved in the original discussions with Jason Russell, experienced a bit of serendipity one day last summer when she stopped to see the completed site. A man already standing at the plot turned out to be a Russell relative.

"I felt this really wonderful sense that he was coming to see and bring closure," says Hodgkinson. "I remember thinking. You know what, we did the right thing. This man has come and found something important to him."

U of G's human anatomy course was begun by the late biomedical sciences professor William Boyd and is now run by faculty and staff in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, using lab space in the Powell Building.

Since 2001, students, faculty and staff have held an annual memorial service on campus at the conclusion of the course. This year's service will take place March 30.

PAPER FARNS KUDOS

Jean Pierre Kapongo, a PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental Biology, received awards for innovative research project and best student presentation at the recent International Symposium on the Ecology and Management of Lygus Plant Bugs in Ottawa. His paper was titled "Optimal Concentration of Beauveria bassiana as Vectored by Bumblebee Pollinators to Control Tarnished Plant Bug Lygus lineolaris." His supervisors are Prof. Peter Kevan and Les Shipp of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

CUNNINGHAM RECOGNIZED

Chuck Cunningham, director of Communications and Public Affairs, was recently named an honorary member of the Ontario University Registrars' Association in recognition of his significant contributions to the association.

GRYPHON HONOURED

Student Jordan Reynolds, captain of the Gryphon men's volleyball team, has been selected an OUA All-Star for the fourth consecutive year and a CIS All-Canadian for the second straight year.

THEY SHOT, THEY SCORED

The U of G Grev Gryphons won the 28th annual faculty and staff invitational hockey tournament held Feb. 24 and 25 on campus. Guelph beat out teams from York, Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier, Western and Lakehead universities. Members of the winning squad were Todd Duffield, Population Medicine: John Kelly, MaRS Landing; Mike Kirk, Alma Research Station; Dave Kribs, Mathematics and Statistics; Kevin McCann, Integrative Biology; Rich Moccia, Animal and Poultry Science; Steve Naylor, OMAF; Doug Powell, Plant Agriculture; Lawrence Spriet, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences; Al Weersink, Agricultural Economics and Business; and Scott Weese, Clinical Studies.

The following appointments were announced recently at the University:

- Cheryl Dennis, truck-mount operator, Custodial Services
- Linda Hawkins, executive director, Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being
- Michael Keegan, locksmith, Physical Resources
- Blair Leifso, generic agricultural assistant, Guelph area, Research Stations Operations
- Peter Milton, manager, Research Stations Operations
- Dave Reynolds, systems analyst, Hospitality Services
- Jody Riel, research animal technician, Ponsonby dog conditioning unit, Research Stations Operations.

IN MEMORIAM

Retired professor Louise Colley of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology died Feb. 28 in Kitchener at the age of 92. A PhD graduate of the University of Wisconsin, she taught at Guelph from 1966 to 1977.

Historian Puts Science Under a Microscope

Newly arrived professor will divide her teaching time between Department of History and bachelor of arts and science program

BY REBECCA KENDALL

N THE 19TH CENTURY, a young Belgian woman named Louise Lateau began to experience stigmata. Starting when she was 18, wounds on her hands, feet and chest would spontaneously open and bleed. This happened every Friday until her death 15 years later. Was she a fraud? Was she a hysterie? Was she a saint? Her condition baffled the religious and medical communities at the time and is a case that interests one of U of G's newest faculty members today.

Prof. Sofie Lachapelle, History, studies the history of science, and although some may think her focus on psychology and psychiatry, marginal sciences and the paranormal is "weird," she loves it. A PhD graduate of the University of Notre Dame, she is primarily interested in 19th-century French psychiatry and psychology. She has worked on the history of mediumistic phenomena, psychical research and miracles emphasizing the connection between science and religion.

In the case of Lateau, Lachapelle explored the scientific scrutiny under which stigmata, a physical manifestation of religion, was put in the 19th century. She says it's interesting that science can assign a label to someone and that label shapes how society views the person.

"I'm not out looking for the truth," she says. "I'm trying to understand how the people reacted to situations and what it meant to them and to the people it was happening to."

Lachapelle, who held a post-doctoral fellowship at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in



History professor Sofie Lachapelle says she enjoyed studying sciences but found herself more interested in the scientists themselves.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Berlin, is curious about who decides what constitutes science, why and how this open-ended process takes place and how it is understood by those who are studied. She is concerned about the ways science marginalizes subject — both hu-

mans and topic — and by the processes through which it creates various identities.

"The relationship between science and religion is something we still don't understand very well, and there is a lot of potential out there for research," she says

In Lachapelle's office is a stack of boxes still waiting to be unpacked and a selection of postcards she picked up in Berlin, Russia, New Orleans and Britain tacked to her bulletin board. She is well-traveled after spending eight years in the United States and Europe, but happy to be back in Canada.

Born and raised on the east side of Montreal to French-speaking parents, she says she did everything in French until her PhD studies. Through watching English television in her teens, she gained some knowledge of the language, and this increased even further during her university years.

"If you buy the physics books in French, they are much more expensive than in English, so you very quickly go to English," says Lacbapelle, who is now fully bilingual.

Long interested in science, she was well into earning a bachelor's degree in physics math from the University of Montreal before realizing she wasn't on the right path.

"The last year I was an undergraduate, I decided I wasn't happy with it, but I couldn't figure out why."

She enjoyed studying the sciences but found herself more interested in the scientists themselves, in their motives and their visions. After talking to a friend in the history department, she instead chose to look into the history of physics as an option.

"Although I studied physics and mathematics as an undergraduate, it was only once I began graduate studies in the history and philosophy of science that I developed an understanding of science that satisfied me," she says.

Here at Guelph, Lachapelle will spend 60 per cent of her time teaching in the Department of History and 40 per cent in the bachelor of arts and science program. She's the first faculty member hired with dedicated responsibilities in the BAS program, which started in 2002.

"She brings to Guelph stellar training and international and multilingual academic experience," says Prof. Donna Pennee, associate dean of arts and social science. "She will continue to develop an already active research profile, one that will directly inform her BAS and other teaching. As such, she is good for the History Department, good for the College of Arts and great for intellectually adventurous BAS students."

Pennee and Department of History chair Terry Crowley say Lachapelle adds to the diversity of the University's faculty. Crowley notes that his department is especially pleased to appoint a woman to a position in the history of science, particularly at a time when old debates over the relationship between women and science have been resurrected through comments recently made by the president of Harvard.

"Through her interests in the evolving social and medical sciences as well as in education, she brings unique perspectives to the growing strengths of the University of Guelph in the history and philosophy of science." he says.

A few months into her position, Lachapelle says she is "really charmed by the department, by how nice people are and by the fact that I feel very comfortable to be myself."

A New Breed of Healthier Cows

Improving overall immune response could lead to long-term animal health

BY MURRAY TONG SPARK PROGRAM

A STRONGER IMMUNE SYSTEM is in the genes for dairy cattle, meaning improved response to vaccines, less antimicrobial use and healthier animals in the long run, says Prof. Bonnie Mallard, Pathobiology.

She and her research group have been studying how immune system genes work in high immune responders, animals with above-average immune responses that should be able to fight off disease more effectively. By determining which genes give cows high immune responses, Mallard hopes to eventually breed high-immune-responding cows that are capable of dealing with a variety of diseases and infections.

"The concept of genetic selection or breeding for disease resistance has always focused on a particular discase," says Mallard. "What we're trying to do is improve the overall immune response. Then, through

selective breeding, we can enhance broad-based resistance and allow cows to deal with a variety of different pathogens."

Animal breeders and researchers have tried using genetic selection strategies in animals to confer resistance to a particular disease. But this isn't a sustainable solution, says Mallard, because the microbes that cause disease can adapt very quickly. She cites as an example the recent finding that scrapie - a fatal brain disease of sheep and goats caused by prions, the same family of agents responsible for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) — was finding its way back into sheep flocks across Europe that were supposedly scrapie-resistant after being selectively bred.

Mallard believes high immune responders could be the key to long-term animal health. She and her colleagues previously devised and patented a method that can detect high immune responders among dairy herds. From there, they've be-

gun to use molecular techniques to find the specific genes in the animals' DNA that are responsible for heightened immune responses.

Although immune response is based on the complex interaction of thousands of genes, the traits Mallard has focused on have high heritabilities, meaning that good immune response is a genetic trait that can be passed on to offspring. That makes it possible for producers to selectively breed high immune responders, she says.

"We've learned a lot about how to breed high-production animals. Now, we're using those same breeding techniques to make cows with stronger overall immune responses, so they'll be better able to fight disease and infections."

That's important to consumers and producers alike, she adds, because recent outbreaks of zoonotic diseases (diseases that can spread from animals to humans) such as BSE, avian influenza and SARS have raised global awareness of the importance of food-animal health.

Although high immune responders may not be immune to all diseases, they do respond better to vaccinations. Mallard and colleagues have found fewer non-responding animals and an increased antibody response in high responders compared with low responders following vaccination against specific diseases, saving money in vaccination and treatment bills. And the cows' naturally high immune response means antimicrobial drugs won't be needed as frequently, she says, allaying the public's fears about antimicrobial resistance.

This research has a number of future directions. Using information gleaned from studying dairy cows' immune response genes, Mallard and her collaborators have created what's called a bovine immune-endocrine cDNA microarray. It's a molecular tool that allows scientists to study how large numbers of genes interact with each other and control immune responsiveness in an animal. This microarray is currently one of only a few of its kind for cattle and can be used by researchers performing many different aspects of dairy cattle research.

Mallard is also a member of the Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network, through which she's applying her immune response work to try to prevent mastitis.

Her collaborators on this project are Prof. Ken Leslie, Population Medicine; Prof. Bruce Wilkie, post-doctoral researchers Rachel Rupp, Suminder Sawhney and Wenjing Tao and PhD candidate Armando Hernandez, Pathobiology; Filippo Miglior of DairyGen; and the University's Centre for the Genetic Improvement of Livestock.

This research is sponsored by Dairy Farmers of Ontario, DairyGen, Science and Engineering Research Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Room Service

BY REBECCA KENDALL

T'S FUNNY," says residence porter Jordan Kovats. "I've never lived in residence, but I've always worked in residence."

Kovats has never spent a full night on campus, not even as an undergraduate at U of G in the early '90s, but he probably knows more about the buildings that provide accommodations for students and a variety of annual visitors than most people. He started working for Student Housing Services in the summer of 1993 as a bed maker and became a residence porter in 1997.

It's 10 minutes into his shift at the East Residence desk and already Kovats has been asked about a deadline that's passed for summer employment in Student Housing and has taken some mail from a woman who mistakenly received it in her mailbox. Another student stops by and buys a few laundry tokens and some fabric softener sheets. Kovats sits down at his desk and explains that interruptions are to be expected.

As one of 10 residence porters at U of G, he handles a wide range of tasks, including completing work orders, handling cash, selling laundry tokens and supplies to students and monitoring the lounge facilities. At the beginning of September, he and the other porters, along with Residence Life staff, help with the big student move-in, which is one of the busiest times of the year.

A big part of his job is just being there to help. "We're the people who



East Residence porter Jordan Kovats can handle most requests, but don't ask him about shopping carts.
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

are always here to answer questions," he says.

Kovats is a pretty helpful guy when it comes to requests. Over the years, he has eased the mind of many a worried parent who's called to check up on a son or daughter. But there was one recent request that he says he simply couldn't help with.

"A fellow wanted to know if he could have a shopping cart delivered to his place," he recalls. The student had noticed a shopping cart sitting on another residence room balcony, something that not only contravenes the policies of Student Housing but

is also illegal. He wanted one for himself and asked for Kovats's assistance. "I had to explain that I couldn't help him steal something."

Although most requests are pretty standard, Kovats says there are times when he's left shaking his head in disbelief.

From September to mid-April, his job exclusively involves working with the students in East Residence. For the past few years, however, he's also been working closely with Conference Services staff from mid-April to the end of August, serving as a temporary lead hand. His job is to

ensure that Conferences has the rooms needed to accommodate the thousands of visitors to campus each summer and to provide direction to the staff working on the summer residence desks.

"It's like Sept. 6 every week," he says, referring to the constant move-ins.

Kovats says the summer gives him a chance to polish his critical-thinking and decision-making skills as he communicates with Conference Services to get information about who's coming to stay on campus and what their needs are and to

work out the logistics to make everything run smoothly. He must ensure that rooms are properly assigned and that everything goes off without a hitch.

"I tend to prefer the summer because it's more of a challenge," he says.

The University hosts numerous conferences each summer, as well as a month-long hockey camp. It also welcomes other visitors. Although conference goers require many extras like meeting spaces and meals on top of the accommodations, others are simply looking for a place to bunk down for the night. For those people, East Residence becomes a designated hostel, serving a wide range of clients, including incoming professors, families visiting the area for short or extended periods, travellers, people attending Hillside or other area festivals or sporting events, and students coming to town to write specialized tests like the MCATS and LSATS.

Anyone can call and book a room just as you would at a hotel, but with additional perks such as kitchen facilities and reduced rates. Visitors can book anything from a single student room to a townhouse.

"There's usually room available, it's affordable and it's comfortable accommodation," says Kovats. "Because the hostel rooms are in East Residence, you can cook for yourself in the kitchen facilities, you're on campus and you're close to everythingelse—for a fraction of the cost of a hotel room."

Jobs Available for Youth in Grey-Bruce, Study Finds

OAC project compares skills, education and career goals of counties' workforce with needs of employers

BY KAREN GALLANT

ANY HIGH SCHOOL students in rural Grey and Bruce counties plan to leave their communities after graduation for work or school in larger cities. They say there's no work in their home communities, but that's a misconception, says Prof. Harry Cummings, Environmental Design and Rural Development.

Cummings recently completed an intensive study of employers, employees and high school students in Grey and Bruce counties, comparing the skills, education and career goals of the workforce with the needs of employers.

"The goal was to look at the balance between the needs of employers and the skills of the current and upcoming labour force," he says. "It appears there are jobs available for recent high school graduates, but this is not the perception in high schools. There is a very high youth labour force participation rate for this area compared with the rest of Ontario. Youth who choose to stay in the area are finding work."

Bruce and Grey counties are primarily rural agricultural areas and include hundreds of kilometres of Lake Huron coastline. The Niagara Escarpment also runs through these counties, whose larger communities include Owen Sound, Hanover, Walkerton, Kincardine, Collingwood, Port Elgin and Wiarton.

Cummings says that, like many rural areas,

these counties have issues with their labour force, such as difficulty attracting and retaining skilled labour, partially due to migration of many youth out of the area despite the availability of jobs.

"These are typical issues in rural Ontario," he says. What's special about the Grey-Bruce area, however, is its proximity to the large markets of southwestern Ontario and the natural features that make it a tourist destination, he adds.

"There is opportunity for these communities to flourish in terms of employment and industry."

But success depends on maintaining a strong workforce, and this may be a challenge for Bruce and Grey counties, says Virginia Lambdin, chief administrator of the Bruce Grey Huron Perth Georgian Triangle Training Board, which commissioned the U of G study.

"This area has the third oldest population in Canada and a very high rate of youth exodus," says Lambdin. "If we're looking to attract business to the area, we need to be able to show that we have a skilled workforce here. By looking at our workforce and seeing what skills are there and what's lacking, we can get an idea of what training needs are."

The study, which began in spring 2004, involved an analysis of recent census data as well as three surveys — one for employers, one for employers and one for high school students in the counties. Cummings says the surveys were

carefully designed so the data could be compared between survey groups and with data from Statistics Canada.

The survey of both adults and youth indicated significant gender differences related to people's perceptions of their skills, he says. Women gave themselves high marks for their "soft skills" such as organization and creativity, whereas male respondents were more likely to note their aptitude for technical skills such as mathematical or technical expertise. There was a similar divide among male and female high school students, with females again favouring courses emphasizing soft skills and also planning to attend university at a much higher rate than males.

"There's a very distinct gender divide," says Cummings. "We've heard about these trends before, but these findings provide some real evidence. As we began the analysis, this finding leapt out at us."

The survey also noted a communication gap between youth and local employers, who will one day rely on this cohort for the bulk of their workforce.

"This is a heads-up to employers that we really need to hang on to our youth," says Lambdin. "We also need to make sure they have the readiness skills so they are employable, and a way to do this is by linking young people with employers in the area before they leave for post-secondary education."

The research team proposed a set of recom-

mendations that aim to connect employers and their current employees as well as inform upcoming employees about how they can make themselves attractive to potential employers. Among the recommendations are increased contact between high school students and industry, more opportunities for continuing education for adults, establishing a management training program for youth, and promotting quality-of-life benefits when recruiting employees.

"The recommendations help us see the big picture so we can address issues on a regional level," says Lambdin. "The information also serves as a recruitment tool and a planning exercise to identify the type of training we need in this region and to retain youth as well."

Although the results of this study will be used primarily by local organizations in decision-making related to planning, resource allocation, community development and curriculum, other regions are also interested in the findings, says Cummings.

"The survey data are specific to Bruce and Grey counties, but the issues raised are common to other rural areas."

His research team includes graduate students David Currie, Rick Whittaker and Patrick Large. As they wrap up this project, Cummings is embarking on a similar study in neighbouring Huron and Perth counties.

A copy of the full report is available online at www.brucegreyskills.com.

Please Listen to Me

"Voice and genuine participation engender dignity and self-respect"

By GERALD HELLEINER

Editor's note: Renowned University of Toronto development economist Gerald Helleiner, who was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree by U of G last month during winter convocation, gave the following address to students graduating from the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

been concerned with the reduction of global poverty and inequality. The world's income and wealth has an impact on global political stability, the global environment, the very future of our planet. But it is, above all, a profoundly moral issue.

What drives most of those working in this field and keeps them there over the years is not intellectual curiosity or the result of economic or political or other scientific analysis. Rather, the prime motivation for those with concern for global poverty and income distribution — whether in NGOs, business, government, academia or religious communities — is a matter of values, values that I am confident we all share.

Yet how difficult it seems to be to translate these universal values into actual global practice.

"Poverty" is not merely a matter of incomes and opportunities, of infant mortality and literacy rates, life expectancy and the incidence of disease, important as all these certainly are. It is also a matter of insecurity and, even more, a sense of powerlessness. When asked in surveys around the world what they most wanted, materially poor people have replied consistently that, among other more obvious needs, they desperately wanted a voice, a sense of participation in the decisions that affect them, a greater sense of their own importance. Voice and genuine participation engender dignity and self-respect, and these are fundamentally important to us all.

Policies that have a harsh impact on poor and voiceless people are often less malevolent than they are thoughtless. Sometimes they are undertaken for the greater social good, as the powerful see it, with the politically weakest, as always, unable to be heard or to protect themselves against baleful side effects. But such policies are also sometimes quite well-intentioned, ostensibly directed at the problems of the poor, as they are perceived "from above." In these cases, for better outcomes, it would be sufficient for the decision-makers simply to listen more. Genuine listening, it turns out, is a rare phenomenon.

Prom all of this, it follows that "process" is enormously important in the pursuit of so-called "development." This is probably the most important professional lesson that, over the years, I bave had to learn. Existing processes, unfortunately, leave a lot to be desired. All of this is true both at the global level and at the national or community level.

Countries, as well as individuals, need to have a voice, a sense of participation, in the institutions and decisions that af-



fect their welfare. By and large, the poorer countries, like poorer people, do not today feel they have such participation, such a voice.

They do not feel that the global economy is governed fairly or that its current "governors" take their interests seriously into account when they make their major decisions. Nor, even when they truly are trying to be helpful, do they always, or even usually, listen well. Top-down prescriptions and conditions on assistance are more typical.

Powerlessness in the face of blows from nature (drought, flood, pests, tsunamis) is extremely difficult to endure. But natural disasters are, in an "aweful" (as in "full of awe") sense, understandable. Powerlessness in the face of harmful human decision-making is another matter entirely.

How can anyone, poor or rich, explain the size of global military expenditures — now in the order of \$1,000 billion (a trillion) per year — relative to those on global poverty reduction?

U.S. military spending in Iraq (population 24 million) is today five times the total net resource flow to sub-Saharan Africa's 700 million, much poorer, people. The U.S. military budget will expand this year — it seems almost casually — by roughly double the amount estimated to be sufficient to meet the UN's millennium development goals (an amount that shows few signs of materializing). It is not earthquakes or floods but human decisions to withhold the necessary funding that are responsible for unnecessary deaths that in Africa alone are, every month, twice the number who died in the recent (one-off) Asian tsunami. Month after month, this monstrous experience continues. To those who know these facts, they are more difficult to endure than tsunamis and other natural disasters.

One day, the voices of the poor may be better heard and human decision-making may improve, but such change seems to come only slowly. What can we do in the meantime?

There is a universal cry: "Listen to me, please listen to me." In my experience, simply listening and "walking with" those whose interests need support and protection (while continuing, of course, to advocate for them in the corridors of power) go a very long way. Progress can and will be made. (I have seen quite a lot of it over the years—the product of sustained effort from many quarters). But, perhaps especially when change is slow and successes are few, genuine support, friendship and accompaniment — some call it solidarity — matter profoundly.

Whatever your walk of life, whatever your politics or religion, work to assist, to walk with and, above all, to listen to the weak and the vulnerable — both at the global and at the local levels. If you cannot assist directly yourself, try to support those

who do. A nation or a community's greatness, it has properly been said, is best judged not by its wealth and power but by the way it treats its most vulnerable. "Progress" in the development of our global village will be judged by future historians — I am sure of it — on the basis of the degree to which it supported, and listened to, its poorest and most vulnerable.

Perhaps all that is novel about my appeal is that I do not make it from a pulpit. I make it as a practising economist. Yes, I base my appeal on values. In my own view, economists who (in the popular conception)."Know the price of everything and the value of nothing" should be kept well away from policy matters. (Adam Smith, the father of modern economics, was, after all, a moral philosopher.) But I am also able to say unequivocally that the "scientific" evidence on these matters is quite clear: When the weak and vulnerable acquire more voice, policies and outcomes are more frequently of benefit to them. And when programs and projects reflect the views of the prospective beneficiaries, they are much more likely both to "work" and to be sustainable.

It is easy to succumb, in the face of obstacles and disappointments in the struggle for a fairer world, to cynicism and despair. Please don't. Don't succumb. The world needs the knowledge and skills you have acquired at university. It needs people like you with hard heads. But even more, it needs people who combine them with soft hearts. It needs them to counter those — and their numbers are legion — who have their heads and their hearts the other way around.

As Tommy Douglas used to say: "Courage, my friends. It is not too late to build a better world."

Healthy Babies Program Leads to Healthy Children

Family relations profs assess provincial program that supports families with new babies

BY ALICIA ROBERTS SPARK PROGRAM

A PROVINCIAL PROGRAM that Offers families with new babies information on parenting and child development, as well as extra services and support as needed, is a success, according to an evaluation involving U of G researchers.

Profs. Bruce Ryan and Donna Lero, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, were part of a consortium that assessed the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services' program "Healthy Babies Healthy Children." The program, which has been operating through each of the province's 37 public health units since 1998, aims to improve physical, communicative and psycho-social development in children.

Based on interviews with more than 6,000 families and surveys of about 3,500 professionals representing all regions of Ontario, the researchers found better child and family health among those who took part in the program compared with those who didn't.

In the researchers' interviews and surveys, children involved in the program scored higher on most infant development measures — such as first steps and first words — while parents felt a stronger sense of connection with community services and gained confidence in their parenting skills. Participating agencies and services reported fewer gaps and less overlap in services, as well as fewer misguided referrals.

"The main goal of the evaluation was to assess how well the program was meeting the needs of children and families," says Ryan. "The evaluation also examined whether blended home visiting, both by lay home visitors and public health nurses, was effective for families in Ontario and could be effective in other provinces as well."

Healthy Babies Healthy Children is made up of both universal services that are offered to all families and targeted services for families more in need of assistance. Services include prenatal and postpartum screenings, a phone call from a public health nurse within 48 hours of returning home with a newborn and recommendations to the primary caregiver for other health and social services. Where additional help appears use-

ful, a public health nurse offers a course of extended home visits as well as referrals to appropriate additional services.

The researchers plan to follow up their work this fall because the children who were part of the initial evaluation will be in kindergarten. At that time, interviews with the parents and the children's teachers will determine whether the program was successful in helping with long-term child development.

The research was done through the University's Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being.

Leap of Faith

Longtime U of G chemistry professor trades his lab coat for priest's vestments

By Andrew Vowles

BLINDING FLASH might have been appropriate to mark Prof. Nigel Bunce's moment of conversion from longtime chemistry professor to Anglican priest in the making. "Some people think you're supposed to have the bolt of lightning," says Bunce. Not so. "The bolt-of-lightning thing didn't work for me."

Call it a slow, controlled burn in the crucible of experience, one that now sees the recently retired faculty member trading his lab coat, glass beakers and lab bench for a priest's vestments, Communion chalice and the altar at St. James Anglican Church in Fergus, where he has served since January 2004, first as an intern and then as assistant

Or perhaps it was that still, small voice — the one from one of Bunce's favourite biblical stories about the prophet Elijah, who heard God in the silence, not in the wind, the earthquake or the fire. (Never mind the thunderous sounds of the natural world: Bunce concedes it might be equally difficult to pick out that still, small voice amid the din of demolition of the former Chemistry and Microbiology Building that punctuated our recent interview. In a curious twist, last year's closure of the C&M Building saw bim relocated to the very office in the west wing of the MacNaughton Building that he had first occupied when he joined U of G back in 1969.)

Even his long academic career played into his spiritual decision. As toxicology programs co-ordinator for 13 years, he'd served as academic counsellor to numerous students. Finding a path through the course calendar often turned out to be merely the opening gambit for many student visitors to his office. What he was offering, Bunce realized, could be considered a form of ministry.

In his home parish of St. John's Anglican Church in Rockwood, he'd been a longtime active parishioner, lending his tenor voice to the choir, taking his turn at the organ console for Sunday services and serving as everything from synod dele-

gate to parish council member. He also wanted to develop his long-standing interest in ministry to seniors through the church.

"I felt this was something that would be important to me," says Bunce, who retired last year after 35 years at U of G.

For all that, preparing for the priesthood was a radically dif-

"I put my foot in the water gently by taking a single course in the psalms at the University of Toronto," he says. "It was fabulous being a student again, with the opportunity of learning new stuff, a different environment. I found I was walking around the Toronto campus a couple of feet off the ground."

Then, using accumulated leave and some leave without pay, he immersed himself full time at Trinity College in Toronto. He completed the three-year program in four semesters, splitting his week between his Guelph home and a bare-bones dormitory in Toronto.

In one sense, returning to studies was less daunting than he'd expected. Now 61, Bunce was on the older end of the age scale among the students at Trinity. But because the average age of the students was just over 40, be felt a lot less isolated than the 20-somethings in the program did. As for the curriculum, he says: "The master's in divinity is an academic degree. I had the advantage of knowing what to expect, how to use the library, the electronic resources and so on."

Still, a humanities program with its small classes, voluminous readings and close analysis of text and ideas was a world away from the chemistry programs he'd completed during the 1960s at Oxford University. Perhaps a greater hurdle loomed in his clinical pastoral training, including stints at St. Joseph's Health Centre in Guelph and an internship as chaplain at Guelph General Hospital.

Bunce recalls a comment by his pastoral supervisor, one that brought home the signal challenge that awaited him in bridging the gap between his longtime science career and his new ven-



ture: "Nigel, you've been working in your head for 35 years. I'm going to send you to an Alzheimer's unit. You have to get out of your head."

Talking to elderly people suffering from various degrees of dementia required an approach that was less analytical and more instinctual. "These are not graduate students," he says. "That's the ongoing challenge. You've got to be what is called "in the moment."

Take the 80-something woman whose affliction had effectively erased most of her recent memories. One day she asked after ber husband. Without thinking, Bunce suggested that maybe he had gone fishing. The woman warmed immediately to the suggestion, launching into a detailed conversation about her husband and his father, who — decades earlier — had indeed been fishing buddies.

He's still amazed by the lucky chance that had allowed him to round out an aspect of this woman's personality without patronizing her. Was that unprompted suggestion another instance of that still, small voice?

"I don't know," says Bunce, who admits he hadn't accepted the assignment without some trepidation.

His pastoral supervisor recalls Bunce's forthright challenge — and then acceptance — of his decision. "I really admire his sense of integrity," says Michael Chow, director of spiritual care services for St. Mary's Hospital in Kitchener.

Michelle Normandin, assistant to the chair in the Department of Chemistry and Bunce's wife of 14 years, says she's seen another side of her husband emerge during his divinity studies. "Nigel has always been a spiritual individual, but this makes his spirituality more visible."

Prof. Dan Thomas, Chemistry, says he wasn't surprised by his colleague's decision to enter the priesthood. "He's certainly a very personable sort of person," says Thomas, who has worked with Bunce in U of G's Electrochemical Technology Centre. (Off campus, Thomas has travelled a parallel path as lay leader with the Mormon Church and now provides pastoral

care to some 200 congregation members in Guelph.)

After finishing his divinity degree in 2004, Bunce was ordained a deacon at a ceremonial service in Hamilton's Anglican Cathedral. His initial feeling at the moment of his ordination was one of letdown, a sensation that was dispelled minutes later when he helped administer Communion to the congregation, including sizeable contingents from his home parish and the parish in Fergus. That's when it hit him, a sensation he still struggles to convey: "It's difficult to explain in mere words."

At the beginning of this year, he was ordained a priest at St. James in Fergus. As assistant curate, he goes by "Nigel" — a perfectly good Christian name, he points out — although a few more traditionally minded parishioners insist on calling him Father. He's conducted baptisms and funerals — no weddings yet — and shares in leading the liturgy and preaching during the two regular Sunday sensites.

Asked to describe his preaching style, he explains that he favours an allegorical approach to Scripture. Take, for example, the parable about Jesus feeding the multitudes with a few loaves and fishes

"Are we talking about sandwiches?" Likely not. "We're probably talking about spiritual hunger, things missing in our lives."

Seen in that light, he says, the fact that those Alzheimer's patients are no longer able to help themselves yet still receive regular meals with the help of the staff becomes something of a minor mirade.

"It's my role to provide a reverential, meaningful worship experience. The spotlight is not supposed to be on me — I'm not doing a Sir John Gieleud or Alec Guinness thing up there."

Spotlight or not, he says his first few turns as preacher brought back shades of confronting his first undergraduate lecture sessions. Preaching to a congregation was no less terrifying, albeit a different kind of terror. Just as he learned to control his

nerves behind the chemistry lectern, he's become more relaxed as preacher — to a point.

As a chemistry instructor, he says, "You've got the knowledge, you're imparting information, hopefully in a way that's approachable, interesting and worthwhile." It's impossible to take that kind of detached approach oo Sunday mornings. "If you're preaching the sermon, this is your faith."

What about that faith? Bunce says science and religion need not make an uneasy pairing. He turns again to metaphor — this time a toolbox — to reconcile the two. No, you can't use a spectrometer to prove that God exists — "NSERC hasn't funded it yet," he quips — but neither would you use faith to explain the physical laws governing a chemical reaction.

Thomas offers another take on the dichotomy from his lifelong experience in the Mormon faith, including a two-year mission in Europe during the 1970s.

"Science tells us many wonderful things. Many conflicts come between scientists and religionists, and not so much between science and religion itself. There's the same invitation to experimentation and discovery in science and religion."

Today, Bunce smiles self-deprecatingly as he recalls that he had first considered entering the priesthood as a teenager. Fortunately, he says, he experienced an epiphany of a different sort when he encountered his first school chemistry course in his native England.

"I had read my chemistry textbook by the second week. The subject really grabbed hold of me."

He studied chemistry at Oxford before coming to Canada for a post-doc in Alberta in 1967. Two years later, he arrived at

Although officially retired, Bunce continues to teach and supervise students. He bopes to land a church of his own at some point, although right now in a career that he says was largely unplanned, who knows what will come next? "I will go where God leads — that would be a nice way to put it."

'Learning Is a Wonderful Gift'

Lab instructor brings renewed focus — and master of education — to teaching duties in College of Biological Science

BY ANDREW VOWLES

ARIE THÉRÈSE RUSH has long considered teaching and learning not just an occupation but a preoccupation as well. That's even more so since last year, when the longtime laboratory instructor and U of G graduate collected a master of education degree to hang alongside her B.Sc.

Rush says completing that master's degree last spring has given her renewed enthusiasm for teaching students in a handful of biology lab courses here at Guelph. And, as she adds in semi-confessional style in her thesis, reaching the milestone is also helping her wrestle a demon that has perched on one shoulder since her own undergraduate days.

"Learning is a wonderful gift for me," says a line in her thesis. More than that, learning is a process of "creating scholarly, artistic and scientific works which enrich and enlarge human life." Or so says the Benedictine tradition that underpins the curriculum at College of St. Scholastica, a private college at the University of Minnesota that Rush chose for her degree.

The two-year program included a variety of courses, from teaching diverse students and assessing students' learning to learner motivation and use of multimedia.

Back at Guelph, her course in assessing learning has proven useful in teaching "Environmental Biology of Fishes," which presented a challenge in grading students equitably. She has since designed marking rubrics that give students clearer targets for excellent or unacceptable work.

Citing Rush's passion for teaching, student Lindsay Bryanne Jennings recalls those rubrics as a useful tool



Marie Thérèse Rush, right, guides the lab studies of students such as Jacqueline Renaud.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

"We knew before we walked into the classroom exactly what we were getting marks for and could prepare our talks accordingly."

Also worthwhile was a course in conflict resolution for "Biology of Polluted Waters," a course that sees students having to work together without being overwhelmed by masses of data for analysis.

Rush's thesis project also included assessment of multimedia modules in helping students learn. She first explored use of multimedia in the early 1990s. "Hove that aspect. It's fun to program."

She found that these modules help students cement course content, but not if students use them as a substitute for attending live labs.

Prof. David Noakes, Integrative

Biology, says Rush's degree has made a difference in her approach to teaching in several courses.

"She has brought new ideas, new insights and new techniques to teaching, especially in terms of improved communication with students and a better understanding of how we can evaluate the effectiveness of our teaching."

Rush completed most of the program by distance education. That meant her customary teaching lab sessions here at Guelph also became learning labs for her.

She also solicited help from other lab instructors, including conducting interviews on teaching topics with colleagues Greg Humphreys, Sandy Ackerley and Peter Smith. Putting principle into practice, she even took her learning home with her, where she enlisted help from her two sons in designing learning materials.

Rush had earlier taken plenty of workshops on aspects of teaching and learning, including courses offered by Teaching Support Services. "It made me hungry for more. I had always wanted to do a master's."

As she explains in her thesis, she also saw the program as a way to dispel a lingering sense of dissatisfaction from her own undergraduate days at Guelph. Having prided herself on top marks through high school, she had trouble keeping up her average during her university marine biology program.

It was only after graduation, while working as a research assistant in the then-Department of Zoology, that she was diagnosed with narcolepsy. That helped explain why she had been "struggling to stay awake at the microscope."

It certainly wasn't boredom that had been plaguing her. Rush says she loved her own program here. Her enthusiasm for teaching was awakened by Prof. Fred Ramprashad, for whom she worked as a technician in studying the inner ear of vertebrates.

She says her undergrad experience at Guelph allows her to identify with many of the innumerable students she has taught since the early 1980s. "I had struggled in vertebrate anatomy, so I knew how to help some of them."

That role spills over after-hours to Rush's volunteer involvement as a Sunday school and children's liturgy teacher at her home church in Georgetown.

"Whether I am teaching my three- to four-year-olds during the children's liturgy class or my fourth-year university students during a laboratory session on reproduction in fish, the same practice applies: being mindful of my students and their needs."

Asked how she reconciles her work — and, in particular, its evolutionary underpinnings — with her evident faith, Rush says: "The more I see, the more I believe. Studying biology hasn't done anything but strengthen my faith."

Noakes recalls a trip to Africa that he took with Rush for a research and development project. Before the flight to Zanzibar, "she struggled with several large suitcases, to the limit of her luggage allowance. On her return flight to Canada, she had only one small item of luggage. She had packed all her large suitcases full of clothing to leave with needy children in Zanzibar."

Blimp Provides Help From on High

Aerial perspective will give farmers more accurate information about soil and crops

BY BETH KENT SPARK PROGRAM

HEN PROFESSIONAL sportsevent organizers need a bird's-eye view of the action, they often summon an airborne blimp. It's become practically synonymous with major outdoor sporting events, putting the crowd, the stadium and even the city in perspective.

This spring, blimps will find a new application: agriculture. In collaboration with Prof. Laura van Eerd of Ridgetown College, Prof. Richard Heck of the Department of Land Resource Science will use a blimp to study and monitor aspects of crop production that are best seen from an aerial perspective, such as plant stress across fields, which can be related to soil fertility and moisture dynamics.

They hope the blimp's-eye view will provide new perspectives on the

ecological well-being of farmland.

"Data collection devices on the blimp can record detailed images of fields throughout the growing season," says Heck. "That would help us gain a better understanding of how plant characteristics reflect soil conditions."

The tethered, helium-filled 21by seven-foot prototype will fly over southwestern Ontario field test plots at an altitude of 500 feet. The blimp is outfitted with two high-resolution digital cameras, manipulated by remote control.

One camera captures normal colour images, while the other collects near infrared light information, which is just outside the visual range of humans. Both cameras can capture images at 10- to 15-centimetre intervals across a given land base.

A thermal infrared imager is also mounted on the blimp, which allows for nighttime studies of heat emissions from the fields.

Heck says the blimp is a huge step towards improving land resource studies because traditional methods of collecting soil samples don't provide comprehensive coverage of the area. Satellites - positioned about 20,000 kilometres from Earth - can also provide complete coverage, but their resolution is lower and they can't guarantee an accurate picture, with ever-changing weather patterns, cloud cover and daylight consistency getting in the way. Aerial photography provides good resolution, he says, but it's more costly to operate, especially when multiple images are desired.

By contrast, small monitoring blimps, which have been tested in different parts of Canada, are inexpensive, easier to operate and close enough to the ground to get a complete and detailed picture of the fields below. And they don't take a lot of time to set up. Researchers can leave the blimp aloft for several hours at a time as it collects images throughout the day.

Heck believes more accurate information about soil and crops will help farmers develop more efficient management practices specific to their fields and even help improve environmentally friendly practices.

This research was sponsored by the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Ontario Innovation Trust

ENERGY RETROFIT IS CLEAR CHOICE

President Alastair Summerlee recently called on members of the University community to suggest ideas for budget savings for the 2005/2006 fiscal year. As students, we commend the president on opening this process to public consultation, but we have already provided him with a viable solution that could immediately save U of G more than \$400,000 a year — a campus-wide energy retrofit.

From our perspective, the choice is clear. On one hand, we can retrofit, decide to take a one-time loan of \$10 million to stabilize skyrocketing energy prices and save millions over the long term. On the other hand, without a campus-wide energy retrofit, we will have to take a \$4-million loan for plant expansion, cut costs in other departments to pay for higher energy costs and continue to resort to piecemeal solutions to an inefficient energy infrastructure.

Guelph Students for Environmental Change — Renewable Energy Group

MARK CONRAD

Research associate in Resource Planning and Analysis

Just take a look around Mark Conrad's office space, and it's obvious how he spends his downtime. To the left is a photo of him whitewater paddling in the Ottawa Valley. To the right is a photo of the Burloak Canoe Club, of which he is a member, training for war canoe races in Mark Conrad 2002. The latter photo, taken



from the banks of Oakville's 16 Mile Creek, was featured in Canadian Geographic's January 2003 edition.

The war canoe seats 15 people, and Conrad added it to his paddling repertoire in 2001. He also takes part in individual, tandem and four-person crew events. He paddles to relax and he paddles to compete — he says he's hooked. "When I'm in a canoe, everything seems to be so perfect."

As soon as the ice is off the water, he'll begin training and will spend his summer taking part in regattas and races, with the season ending at the Canadian Masters Championships in August.

"Honestly, I paddle a lot," he says. "With the whitewater stuff, it's amazing, even more so than racing actually, because everything just shrinks down to what's happening on the river at that moment."

With a passion for the outdoors and a background in biology, he says his dream is to someday start an ecotourism business with his wife, Catrien. "It's a good way to bring the two together and make a living at it to

KAREN WENDLING

Faculty member in the Department of Philosophy since

If you were to visit Prof. Karen Wendling's backyard this spring, there's a good chance you'd find her wrist-deep in organic compost, singing something made famous by Julie Andrews.
"Believe it or not, despite my low speaking voice, I sing soprano," she says. "People are always surprised by this.



Wendling grew up with music and fondly remembers parties her mother threw where professional musician friends would break out into song midway through the evening. She also remembers harmonizing with her family on long trips in the car. Last year, she

joined Guelph's Rainbow Chorus and started taking formal voice lessons.

"When you sing in harmony with other people, especially a large group, it's just so beautiful. It transports me to another realm."

She especially enjoys singing classical choral standards and songs from musicals, especially those starring Andrews. "I love Julie Andrews," she says

Wendling is also an avid organic gardener and composter, although not necessarily in that order. "I think I only garden to make use of my compost," she

The key to a good compost, in her books, is mixing the right combination of browns (things like leaves, ground-up twigs, coffee grinds, shredded newspaper) with greens (kitchen and food scraps.) "What you're really aiming for is the right balance of carbon and nitrogen."

In her garden, you'll find a variety of flowers, a peach tree, berry bushes, several varieties of tomatoes and some peppers — a few of her favourite things.

Fourth-year student in biological engineering

Alyssa Lindsay is co-president of U of G's Engineers Without Borders, a registered Canadian charity and non-profit organization that helps people in developing communities around the world gain access to the technology they need to improve their lives,

The group provides intema-



Alyssa Lindsav

tional opportunities for its members, and in May, Lindsay is leaving for northem Ghana, where she will spend her summer break working with the country's Ministry of Food and Agriculture. She says she expects to be involved in activities such as pest control management and rural extension

Although English is widely spoken in the region, Lindsay is preparing for her trip by learning Dagbani, the indigenous language of the people living there. Although she's found a few websites to help her, it's been

"The problem is, there's not really a written form of the language," she says. "There have been several attempts at it from what I've gathered from my research, but there's been no official formal written form.'

The websites have provided her with the phonetic composition of Dagbani, and one also offers limited audio clips so she can hear how it sounds. So far, she says, she has learned about a dozen phrases.

Cabaret to Raise **Funds for Choir**

HE U OF G Chamber Choir is one of 39 choirs from around the world selected to participate in Festival 500 July 3 to 10 in St. John's,

Recognized internationally as an opportunity to explore and enhance choral excellence, Festival 500 will draw delegates and choirs from every continent, including 21 Canadian entries, and will entertain more than 14,000 concertgoers.

Marta McCarthy, conductor of the U of G Chamber Choir, says: "Participating in such a significant event gives one a sense of personal and corporate pride - in our community and in our country. As a choir from the host country, our students will act as diplomats to international choirs. Our participation in Festival

500 will provide an opportunity to spread Guelph's reputation as a community of innovation, opportunity and excellence."

To help cover expenses, the choir has organized "Showcase: A Fundraising Cabaret," to be held March 12 at 8 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. The show will feature song, humour and a tribute to George

There will also be refreshments and a raffle with prizes, including a \$100 gift basket from the Nutty Chocolatier, dinner for two at East Side Mario's, a concert for two at the River Run Centre and a month of lessons from the Octave Music Store.

Show tickets are \$20 and are available by calling McCarthy at Ext.

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Province's Growth Proposals from community and area represen-

Community Forum to Focus on

HE ONTARIO government's recent legislation implementing a "greenbelt" and its major urban growth proposals in "Places to Grow" will be the focus of a community forum to be held April 7 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the River Run

Prof. David Douglas, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, will moderate the event, which is being organized by the Guelph Urban Forum in collaboration with the Guelph Round Table on the Environment, Economy and Society.

The evening will include a presentation on the proposals by Jason Thorne of the Ontario Growth Secretariat, a number of panel responses

The next issue of At Guelph is March 23. The deadline for copy is March 15.

tatives, and an open question-and-answer community input and discussion.

"The province has tabled historically ambitious proposals to accommodate up to four million new residents over the next 25 years proposals that could change the entire urban structure of southern Ontario and most of the countryside that we all know on a day-to-day basis," says Douglas. "Massive changes are imminent - changes that could

affect every aspect of life in Guelph and Wellington County. In many respects, this forum is 'it' as far as the future of this community is concemed. I encourage everyone to at-

Co-sponsors of the event include U of G and the Downtown Board of Management.

For more information, contact Douglas at Ext. 56785 or ddouglas@rpd.uoguelph.ca or Prof. Taylor at Ext. 56780 or jtaylor@la.uoguelph.ca.



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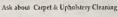
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Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore, to be held at the end of the semester. Anyone who submits the right answer by March 11 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56982. The following people correctly reported that the Feb. 23 photo was of the Hilton Centre at the Arboretum: Trish Dean, Wayne Aitken, Karen Landman, Judith Renaud, Stephen Gazzola, Nancy Hammond, Demos Leonardo, Debbie Chan, Sean Fox, Karen MacDonald, Jim Brett, Lorilyn McKenzie, Evelyn Pike, Dorothy Goettler, Kate Welch, Betty Clyde, Lenore Ross, Marion Wilke, Ric Jordan, Fran Kitchen and Patricia Tersigni.

A Spa Day for the Soul

Mac-FACS alumni host annual 'Food for Thought' fundraiser

HE MAC-FACS Alumni Association's "Food for Thought" seminar series presents a Spa Day for the Soul April 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Atrium Restaurant in Macdonald Stewart Hall.

The annual fundraiser kicks off with Prof. Kerry Daly, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, discussing "Who Controls Your Time?" Next up is Michael Rock, who teaches in the MBA and leadership studies MA programs in Guelph's Faculty of Management. In his talk, "Stress EO and Unstress You," he will focus on emotional intelligence and ways to de-stress your life.

Lunch will be a three-course gourmet meal prepared by U of G chef Domenico Ranalli.

The afternoon sessions begin

with Trish Dean of U of G's Office of Investment, who will present "Relax, Renew, Enjoy," a session that will introduce participants to various techniques to help with everyday stress. The day wraps up with a wine and food pairing demonstration (and tasting) by Bob Desautels, a Guelph B.Comm. graduate who is president of Arrow Neighbourhood Pubs

Tickets for this event are \$50 and will be available after March 15 by calling Marilyn Bracken at Ext. 56753 or sending e-mail to CSAHS@uoguelph. ca. Proceeds will go to the Macdonald Institute Restoration Fund and college scholarships.

Website Spotlights Campus Sustainability

HYSICAL RESOURCES will launch a specialized website focusing on campus sustainability March 11 at 2:30 p.m. at the Bullring.

Free refreshments will be provided, and those attending will have a chance to participate in an energy logo design contest for energy awareness efforts on campus.

Spearheaded by Gillian Maurice, U of G's sustainability co-ordinator, the website provides useful information about recycling, composting, energy use and waste reduction, which is designed to protect the environment and help the University reduce overall emissions in accordance with the Kyoto Protocol. Located at www.pr.uoguelph.ca/ sustain, the site includes links to pamphlets, sorting guides and frequently asked questions.

"The website provides an all-in-one resource on the environmental services offered hy the University," says Maurice.

In addition to recycling and energy information, the site boasts an all-new "Online Stuff Swap" that allows students, staff and faculty to post or browse listings of shareable



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FOR SALE

Bunk bed set, including mattresses, ladder and co-ordinating comforter, excellent condition; Moulinex tabletop convection oven, good working order, 837-3809.

2000 Palomino 12-foot tent trailer, sleeps six to eight, includes indoor/outdoor stove, furnace, fridge, sink and awning, excellent condition, 823-8934.

Dining room table with four chairs; woman's new blue dress, size 8, and blue suede pumps, size 9; entertainment centre; floral patterned love seat, 822-0786 or mary.delrosario@ sympatico.ca.

Three-bedroom 1,550-square-foot home in south end, four baths, close to campus, shopping and schools, on bus route, gas, central air, cathedral ceiling, upgrades, on wide 55-foot lot, 836-2733 after 6 p.m. or pkrell@rogers.com.

Large solid oak office desk, 34 by 60 inches, six drawers, pullout keyboard shelf, excellent condition, best offer, 821-2493

DP Fit for Life Transport LP 6400 treadmill, assembled and delivered; York Mega Max 3001 Vertical Press Home Gym, partly assembled and delivered; retro '70s kitchen table, two chairs and bench seat, photos available, Dawn, Ext. 58678 or dowen@msac.ca.

FOR RENT

Furnished basement level of College Avenue condo, private bath, laun-

dry/cooking area, walking distance to campus, mature grad student preferred, non-smoker, no pets, references required, \$485 a month inclusive, 837-4378

Bright, spacious one-bedroom apartment on ground level in private home, separate entrance, garden access, two kilometres from campus, mature grad student or professional preferred, available April 1, \$650 a month inclusive, Donna, mmaidmen@uoguelph.ca.

Spacious upstairs bedroom to sublet on Caledonia Street, close to campus and bus stop, gourmet kitchen, non-smokers, no pets, available May to August 2005, \$400 a month plus utilities, Alan, akwan@uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom cottage with view of Lake Huron, suitable for four, all amenities non-smokers, included, available for July, 763-1236 or lrbardwell@sympatico.ca.

Two-bedroom lakefront cottage on Ahmic Lake east of Parry Sound plus two-bedroom guest cabin, two boat docks, private, suitable for two families, \$1,200 a week, 824-1773.

Furnished three-bedroom house in south end for long or short term, security, central vac/air, gas fireplace, Jacuzzi, laundry, parking, available May 1, \$1,600 a month plus shared utilities, intelrent@hotmail.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, available

weekly or monthly, Nicole, 836-6745 or fnmoll@webty.net.

WANTED

Cup tree, Ext. 52965.

Bar fridge for apartment, 822-0786 or mary.delrosario@sympatico.ca.

Sex and the City DVDs, except seasons three and six, ccheesem@ uoguelph.ca.

Utility trailer, preferably 12-inch wheels and 2,000-pound axle; garden tractor with snowblower, Jerry, Ext. 52148.

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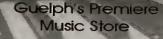
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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Arboretum gardener Lenore Ross offers a workshop on pond gardening March 31 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$35. Registration and payment are required by March 17.

Naturalist Chris Earley leads a workshop on ducks April 1 from 8 to 11 a.m. A field trip will be held April 9 to view migrating ducks at Mountsberg Conservation Authority. Cost is \$70. Deadline for registration and payment is March 18.

The Theatre in the Trees production of William F. Brown's A Single Thing in Common runs Saturdays until April 30. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$53. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre launches its 25th-anniversary exhibition, "Treasures From the Collection," March 24 at 7:30 p.m.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's noon-bour concert series continues March 10 with Prof. Ellen Waterman on flute, Scott Thomson on trombone, Joe Sorbara on drums and Ken Aldcroft on guitar. On March 17, Chi Borag performs on Mongolian cello accompanied by pianist Yukiko Watanabe and dancer Hanayagi Hirokoma. On March 24, Larry Beckwith conducts the Early Music Ensemble. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

Marta McCarthy leads the U of G Chamber Choir in a fundraiser cabaret March 12 at 8 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

FILM

The McLaughlin Library and the Central Student Association's free documentary film series continues March 9 with Litigating Disaster and Forgive Us Our Debts, March 16 with Kent State: The Day the War Came Home and America: Love It or Leave It and March 23 with Dreamland. The films run at 7:15 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

LECTURES

The 2005 Hammond Lecture Series presents former federal environment minister Charles Caccia discussing "Politics and the Elusive Goal of Sustainable Development: Links to Environment and Health" March 11 at 7 p.m. in Rozanski 104. On March 12, a day-long symposium will feature speakers and a panel discussion on environmental issues from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Trophy Room of the Cutten Club. Sponsored by the Faculty of

Environmental Sciences and U of G, the lecture and symposium are free and open to the public.

The School of Fine Art and Music's visiting artist and speaker series features Toronto artist Shirley Wiitisalo March 14 at 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 114

The 2005 MBA Lecture Series presents Tom Penney, vice-president of planning and product innovation and enhancement for the Canadian Tourism Commission, March 15 at 10 a.m. in Macdonald Stewart 129. He will discuss "Strategic Issues in Canadian Tourism."

The Canadian Association of Physicists Undergraduate Lecturer Series presents Gary Slater of the University of Ottawa discussing "Brownian Motion: The Life of Dancing Molecules" March 15 at 4 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. A reception will follow in MacNaughton 318.

U of G's Canada Research Chairs lectures continue March 16 with Prof. Serge Desmarais, Psychology, who will focus on "Personal Entitlement and Its Influence on Men's and Women's Life Outcomes" at 4:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

The Department of Philosophy is hosting two talks by York University feminist philosopher Lorraine Code March 18. At 1:30 p.m., she will address the course "Philosophy of Feminism" in Thornbrough 1307. At 3:30 p.m., she will speak in MacKinnon 117, to be followed by a wine-and-cheese reception at 5:30 p.m. in UC 441. Everyone is welcome.

NOTICES

Do you enjoy gambling? Subjects are needed for gambling studies in the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies. Subjects are paid for their time, and all sessions are held on campus. Subjects must be 19 or older and must not have participated in any gambling research in the last year. To register, call Ext. 52572.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic and the McLaughlin Library Learning Commons offer an examSMART program beginning March 15. The four-session program will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. in McLaughlin 384. Cost is \$20 for U of G students. For more information or to register, stop by the Learning Commons, leave a message at Ext. 52662 or visit www.uoguelph.cal-ksomers.

The Investment Club affiliated with the Department of Economics and the Economics Society presents John Embry, chief investment strategist for Sprott Asset Management, March 16 at 5:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 113. Admission is \$2.

SEMINARS

The Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences presents Lora Giangregorio of the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute considering "Body Weight-Supported Treadmill Training in Individuals With Spinal Cord Injury: Impact on Muscle Mass and Bone Density" March 14. On March 21, the topic is "Regulation of Glut4 Glucose Transporters: Epitope Exposure and Interacting Proteins" with Amira Klipp of the Hospital for Sick Children. The seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Cognitive Science Group's seminar series continues March 16 with Adam Anderson of the University of Toronto presenting "Emotional Memories? Psychological and Neural Accounts." On March 23, Brenda Smith-Chant of Trent University discusses mathematical reasoning. The talks are at 3:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 232.

The College of Arts "Research in Progress" series features Prof. Femi Kolapo, History, March 16 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 103. His topic is "W.B. Baikie on the Niger: A Window on Mid-19th-Century West African Engagement With British Humanitarian Enterprise."

Next up in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series March 18 is Jondavid de Jong discussing "An Investigation of Early Events in Baculovirus Infection" at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

"Molecular and Nutragenomic Approaches in Studying Human Lipid Metabolism" is the topic of Prof. Marica Bakovic, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series March 18 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

The Department of Physics seminar series continues March 22 with Lars Konermann of the University of Western Ontario explaining "Protein Folding Studies by Time-Resolved Mass Spectrometry" at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 101.

SYMPOSIUM

U of G is among the sponsors of "Towards a National Food Safety Strategy," a one-day symposium March 21 at the Holiday Inn. For more information, visit www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?siteID=3 23&eventDisp=NFSSM&clientid=2 648.

THEATRE

The School of English and Theatre Studies presents *The Vic* by Leanna Brodie until March 12 at the George Luscombe Theatre. Directed by Prof. Ric Knowles, the play runs

nightly at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and \$9 and are available at the door or by calling Ext. 53147.

Those Crazy Germans Productions, in affiliation with the German studies program in the School of Languages and Literatures, presents scenes from plays by Friedrich Schiller, Friedrich Dürrenmatt, Bertolt Brecht and Max Frisch March 23 and 24 at 7 p.m. in Lower Massey Hall. Three of the scenes will be performed in English and one will be in German. Admission is \$5 general, \$4 for students and seniors.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Marcia Ninness, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is March 16 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "The Physiology of Hatching in Rainbow Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) Embryos." The adviser is Prof. Patricia Wright.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Alison Holden, Marketing and Consumer Studies, is March 16 at 4 p.m. in Macdonald Stewart 209. The thesis is "Service Convenience Scale Development and the Examination of Its Impact on Service Provider Satisfaction." The advisers are Profs. May Aung and Scott Colwell.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' luncheon series for new faculty continues with "Advising Graduate Students" March 16. Register online at www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

On March 31, TSS presents a workshop on "Producing Quality Video for Teaching and Instruction." Register through the Human Resources website at www.uoguelph.ca/hr/ training/coursereg.htm

For instructors using WebCT in their courses, TSS staff are available for one-on-one assistance at weekly drop-in WebCT clinics Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. in Day Hall 211.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis will hold its annual fundraising auction and dinner March 19 at 5 p.m. at Guelph Place. Donations of auction items are welcome. For information or tickets, call 836-1110.

Child Haven International, an organization that operates homes for women and children overseas, will host a fundraiser April 2 at 5:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Catholic Centre, 15 Michael St., Kitchener. The evening will feature live and silent auctions, a bazaar table, Indian cuisine and dancing, and door prizes. For ticket information, call Shahnaz Negi at Ext. 56540.

The Edward Johnson Music Foundation will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its Guelph Wine Gala and Auction April 2 starting at 6 p.m. in the atrium of the OMAF building. This year's theme is "Aged to Perfection." The evening will include a Wine Walkabout and Food Exposition as well as silent and live auctions. Speciality guided tastings will also be available. For ticket information, call 821-7570.

The Guelph Concert Band directed by Colin Clarke presents "Dance Music" March 13 at 3 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The concert will include guest performances by belly dancer Ishra, the Invoke-Tress Dance Theatre and U of G's Synergy Dance Troupe. For ticket information, call 763-0000.

The next meeting of the Wellington County branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society is March 22 at 7:30 p.m. at 125 Harris St. Guest speaker is Elizabeth Bloomfield, who directed the research for the Guelph Regional Project.

A dinner and fashion show fundraiser for the Guelph and District Multicultural Festival is slated for March 30 at 6:15 p.m. at the Italian Canadian Club. Co-sponsored by Sears, the show will feature women's fashions and a variety of cultural costumes. Tickets are available at Sears and at 214 Speedvale Ave. W., Unit 7, by phone at 836-5314 or by e-mail at festivalguelph @bellnet.ca.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph presents the 30th annual Bowl for Kids April 1, 2, 3 and 5 at Woodlawn Bowl. To register a team of five, call 824-5154 or visit www.bigbrothers bigsisters.guelph.org.

The Guelph Spring Festival will hold its annual giant garage sale March 18 from 2 to 5 p.m. and March 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Harcourt Memorial United Church.

The Elora Festival Singers conducted by Noel Edison will perform J.S. Bach's Mass in B minor March 20 at 3 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church in Guelph. For tickets, call 846-0331.

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis presents a workshop on "Journal Writing: Telling Your Own Story" March 31 from 1 to 4 p.m. at 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 823-5806, Ext. 33.

Guelph Civic Museum will host a March Break Fun Week March 12 to 20 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Hands-on activities will complement this year's March Break theme, "History Through the Ages." The museum is also offering a morning March Break Camp for children aged six to 10. For more information, call 836-1221.

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INSIDE: CFI AWARDS TO SIX • FOCUS ON FOOD SAFETY • CO-OP STUDENTS, EMPLOYER HONOURED



"Very cool," says Prof. Dale Smith of her recent teaching stint in Zimbabwe

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Game for a Challenge

OVC prof visits Africa to teach game immobilization to wildlife managers

BY ANDREW VOWLES

PROF. DALE SMITH, Pathobiology, and several of her students were running to find the immobilized black rhino calf when an adult rhino came snorting and stamping out of the bush only metres ahead of them. In the thick undergrowth, the animal obviously the calf's mother - had managed to elude the dart team intended to keep her at bay.

Looking back at last month's incident from the relative safety of a microscope lab at the Ontario Veterinary College, Smith laughs as she recalls the immediate reaction of the team members. Arcing her hand and arm, she says: "They all did beautiful swan dives into the acacia bushes."

She followed suit. When moments later they emerged, bleeding from the sharp thorns, the adult rhino had trundled off.

That was the most harrowing moment Smith encountered during her two-week trip in early February to the low veldt of Zimbabwe. She had been invited as the lone Canadian to join an instructional team of veterinarians to teach methods of immobilizing game to wildlife managers from several southern African countries. Her trip was partly supported by Canada's newly created Veterinarians Without Borders.

About 30 students took part in the course, held at a training camp on a reserve run by Zimbabwe's Malilangwe Conservation Trust about five hours' drive from Harare Numerous animals, from wildebeest and elephants to zebras and giraffes, roam freely around the park.

"There were lions outside our camp roaring every night," Smith

She helped teach the classroom component, including sessions on animal anatomy and physiology, how to use equipment - primarily dart guns loaded with powerful tranquillizing drugs - and how to handle animals in the field.

She also took part in those field sessions, where students learned how to immobilize animals and work safely with them while collecting blood samples, attaching radio transmitter collars and monitoring their condition under anesthetic.

The Zimbabwe Veterinary Association runs the annual wildlife immobilization course for veterinarians, park wardens and others handling animals in the country's preserves.

"The ability to handle and move animals, whether for simple management reasons or for disease investigation and control, is extremely important," says Smith.

And appropriate training in the use of immobilization methods is vital to reducing the stress and possible injury to animals that must be handled, she adds.

(About half of the students were actually foreign visitors interested in zoos and wildlife who paid to attend the session. Smith says the country is desperate for foreign currency. Tourism to its lush game preserves has virtually bottomed out since Zimbabwe's president, Robert

Mugabe, began a controversial land-redistribution program about five years ago that has led to political and economic unrest.)

"It was very cool," says Smith, who has racked up considerable experience in animal capture and immobilization here in Ontario and during time spent in Africa. In 1984, she was the second person to complete the graduate program in zoo animal medicine and pathology in-

Continued on page 10

U of G Gets \$1.2 Million for Health Research

CIHR funding supports three projects in CBS

BY LORI BONA HUNT

NIVERSITY OF GUELPH faculty received more than \$1.2 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) March 15 to fund three projects aimed at advancing research on multiple sclerosis (MS) and immunity infections.

The announcement was made in Toronto by Carolyn Bennett, minister of state (public health). The Guelph projects are part of a \$91.8-million investment in research initiatives at Ontario universities and health research institutions. Nationally, CIHR is investing more than \$222 million in 571 projects, 219 of them in Ontario.

"It's great to again see University of Guelph researchers recognized by their peers for the contributions they're making to Canada's medical research efforts," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (re-

"Their new funding will be targeted at research projects in areas where each of these people has clearly excelled."

Currently, more than a dozen Guelph faculty are heading research projects supported by CIHR. In fact, U of G receives more than \$1.1 million annually from the federal agency for specific projects, more than any other Canadian university without a medical school.

All of the latest U of G projects are led by professors in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology. Prof. George Harauz received \$482,170 for a five-year study on the structure of myelin basic protein. This important protein is involved in maintaining the integrity of the myelin sheath of the central nervous system, which insulates nerve endings. Myelin helps the nerves receive and interpret messages from the brain quickly.

Harauz will collaborate with Continued on page 10

'Last Lecture' Set for April 7

Graduating BAS student, retiring history prof, BA grad to speak

OF G WILL HOLD its fourth annual "Last Lecture" April 7 to give graduating students a chance to reflect on their time here and to recognize their achievements inside and outside the classroom. This year's theme, taken from the motto of Leaders Today, an organization whose mandate is to empower youth to become socially involved, is: "We Are the Generation We Have Been Waiting For.'

The event begins at 6 p.m. in War Memorial Hall and will feature talks by history professor David Murray, Guelph graduate Louise Kent and graduating bachelor of arts and sciences student Deborah Di Liberto. A reception will follow at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre.

Murray has been a faculty member at U of G since 1962 and was dean of the College of Arts from 1980 to 1992. In 1999, he received the College of Arts Teaching Excellence Award and the U of G Faculty Association Distinguished Professor Teaching Award. The author of five books and dozens of book chapters, he plans to retire in May.

Kent earned a degree in international development from Guelph in 2002. Since then, she has worked in Guyana with rural youth and has travelled across Southeast Asia. A former international youth coordinator for Free the Children, she promotes youth activism and social involvement and is currently working for Leaders Today as a motivational speaker.

Over the course of her university career. Di Liberto has been a student senator, co-chair of Student Senate

Caucus and president of the BAS Students' Association. She has also been involved with Interhall Council, Meal Exchange, Project Serve and the orientation program for new

Emilie Hayes, experiential education specialist in Student Life and Career Services, says the purpose of the Last Lecture is "to provide opportunities for graduating students to reflect, celebrate and be inspired, as they gather one last time to hear parting words from a member of their class, a faculty member and a distinguished graduate."

She encourages students to invite along a faculty or staff member who has contributed positively to their academic and personal growth by going to www.studentlife.uoguelph. calcitizenleader.

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from the president

Guelph Spirit Perseveres

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

THE CANADIAN INTERUNIVERSITY SPORT (CIS) championships couldn't have come at a better time. For starters, it's March in Ontario — need I say more? There have been days when it seems winter might last forever.

So the news that more U of G athletes than ever had qualified for this year's national championships provided a much-needed boost. More important, it was a reminder of just how talented and dedicated our student athletes are.

For the past few weeks, much of my time and thoughts have been focused on government funding issues and University-wide budget cuts. But the CIS championships remind me that, in the midst of budget-related worries, the spirit of Guelph perseveres. And nowhere is that more evident than in our student athletes.

It goes without saying that all our students contribute to the greatness of Guelph's character. I am always amazed and humbled when I hear stories about their accomplishments, efforts and dedication. Whether it's raising money for food banks, spending spring break building houses for Habitat for Humanity or organizing charity hockey games, our students have shown they are selfless and committed to improving the world around them, all the while excelling academically.

But 1'd like to focus on our student athletes here because they are representative of the spirit, grit and determination that are embodied in all our students.

Many of you may already know that 50 of our best student athletes recently competed for medals, titles and recognition at national tournaments in wrestling, track and field and women's basketball. It would take this entire column to list the names and accomplishments of all the competitors, so I will highlight just a few.

In track and field, Neb Zachariah captured the national title in the women's triple jump. She also broke the U of G record with a 12.3-metre leap and won All-Canadian status, all of this in her rookie year.

Michelle Moody won a silver medal in the high jump with a 1.71-metre leap, and pentathletes Liz Akeroyd and rookie Brae-Anne McArthur won silver and bronze medals, respectively. Overall, the women's track and field team placed fifth, the best-ever national finish for U of G. and second in Ontario.

On the men's side, Greg Baril-Kennedy won the gold medal in the high jump, and rookie Pat Szpak won a bronze medal in the shot put, the first-ever throws medal for the Gryphons.

In wrestling, Craig Cox won the gold medal in his division, beating the CIS defending champion during the February nationals.

Our women's basketball team competed in the national championships for the first time in 25 years. Players Stephanic Yallin and Sharon Hollinshead were named to the OUA west all-star team, and Heather Angus to the west all-rookie team.

It's important to keep in mind that for every person who wins a medal or earns a trip to the nationals, there are dozens of other athletes on campus who are pushing themselves on a daily basis to be the best they can be, excelling both in their personal achievements and in supporting their teammates.

And they do it all while continuing to distinguish themselves as students. Last year, more than 100 of our varsity athletes received national and provincial recognition for maintaining an academic average of 80 per cent. It's a remarkable achievement, especially given that athletes dedicate 15 to 25 hours a week to their sport and many of them also hold down part-time jobs.

In addition, they are training in facilities that, for many years, have lagged behind in equipment and services, something we are working hard to remedy.

Despite it all, they persevere, relying on talent, heart and will to succeed. Note, for example, that our women's basketball team was among the youngest and least experienced on the court this year. All five of our starters are in their first year of eligibility. But they didn't let that stop them. They won the provincial title in March, finishing OUA play with a remarkable 16-game winning streak. All season long, they beat older, more experienced teams through sheer drive and determination, and they did us proud at the national tournament, placing sixth overall.

No matter how long winter weather hangs on or how absorbed I become by budget talks, I'll remember the dedication and tenacity of our women's basketball team, of all our athletes and of our entire student body. It will remind me that there's a greater purpose to my day-to-day tasks: providing these students who have made us all proud with the best training for life we can.

Students Donate Record Amount to Charities Through Meal Exchange

of G STUDENTS have donated \$21,913 from their meal plans this semester to buy food for local charities. This is the highest amount ever raised at any Canadian university or college through Meal Exchange in one semester.

The students' donations were used to buy wholesale products for 14 organizations throughout the city that support abused women, homeless teens and people who use food banks.

Meal Exchange is a national student-run organization that aims to engage students from 45 Canadian campuses in solving the problem of hunger in their communities. Through Meal Exchange's "Skip a Meal" program, students buy specialty items that aren't often collected in traditional food drives, such as ethnic and diabetic foods.

In the past year, U of G students have contributed more than \$70,000 in food to local organizations through "Skip a Meal" and the Meal Exchange's "Trick or Eat" Halloween food drive.

"This contribution would not have been possible without the support of devoted volunteers, students and our university," says student Thanu Nadarajah, a Meal Exchange co-ordinator at U of G. "I would like to think that this achievement will inspire everyone to look within themselves and make a difference in their own communities."

U of G students have taken part in the "Skip a Meal" initiative since 1997 and have contributed \$180,000 in food for local organizations.

"We are grateful for the support we've received from Quizno's Subs, the Co-operators and Hospitality Services," says student Anita Abraham, another Meal Exchange co-ordinator. "Their willingness to provide for this program has been critical to our success."

GUELPH

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The Canadian Society of Microbiol-

ogists (CSM) has named interim

Ontario Veterinary College dean

Carlton Gyles the 2005 winner of its

highest honour, the Roche Diag-

nostics/CSM Award. This broadly

based career award recognizes the

lifetime achievement of an eminent

and highly accomplished microbi-

ologist. Gyles, who earned his

DVM, M.Sc. and PhD from OVC.

joined the faculty of U of G in 1969.

During his career, he has made

major contributions to the under-

standing of E. coli pathogenesis and

plasmids in virulence. He will

receive the award at the annual

CSM meeting in Halifax in June.

TORONTO ROUND TABLE

STAFF CHANGES ANNOUNCED

Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration), has announced that Don Hawkins, who joined the University as director of University Police, Fire Prevention and Parking Services Jan. I, has resigned to return to his consulting business. Robin Begin, manager of operations, has been appointed interim director for the next year. Ian Weir, manager of Parking Services, has agreed to take on the additional role of interim manager of operations. Sullivan has also announced that, following the appointment of Audit Services manager Kelly Bertrand to the position of associate director, organizational services, in the Office of the Chief Information Officer, staff auditor Heidi Huisman will become acting manager April 2S until a replacement is found. Huisman's temporary replacement will be Shirley Higginson, former director of internal audit at Queen's University, who joins the department March 28

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Steelworkers Local 4120 is calling for nominations for its annual Susanne Sprowl Community Service Award. Named for the late Susanne Sprowl, a 20-year U of G staff member who died in 2000, the award recognizes significant contributions to the betterment of the University and the external community through community spirit and volunteer work. U of G Steelworkers members in good standing are eligible for the award which consists of \$500 and a certificate. The award will be presented at the Community Barbecue in July. Nominations must be submitted by May I and can be mailed to Room 4S1 of the University Centre, faxed to 767-6660 or e-mailed to admin@ uswa4120.ca.

RELAY FOR LIFE RUNS APRIL 1

A Relay for Life fundraiser for the Canadian Cancer Society runs from April 1 at 7 p.m. to April 2 at 7 a.m. in Alumni Stadium. Ten-member teams will participate in the event, which will also include a cancer survivor victory lap and a candlelight ceremony to honour survivors and remember loved ones. Organizers welcome any survivors interested in joining the victory lap. For information about participating in the relay or donating, send e-mail to guelphrelay@hotmail.com.

The following appointments were recently announced at U of G:

- · Warren Beacham, manager, infrastructure programs, Office of
- Kelly Bertrand, associate director, organizational services, Office of the Chief Information Officer
- · Kevin Garner, agricultural worker, Research Stations Operations, Office of Research
- . Brenda Hotchkiss, assistant to the executive director, Physical Resources
- · Jeff McFarlane, agricultural worker, Research Stations Opera-

Six Receive CFI Support

New Opportunities Fund invests more than \$600,000 at U of G

Six innovative projects headed by the "next generation" of outstanding researchers at U of G have received support from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

CFI is investing more than \$600,000 in the projects through its New Opportunities Fund. The announcement was made March 11 in Victoria by Carmen Charette, CFI's senior vice-president, and Industry Minister David Emerson, Guelph was among 41 Canadian universities that received a total of close to \$24 million in support for 120 new research projects.

"This is an investment in the future," Charette says. "We are providing the tools that will attract tomorrow's leaders and create opportunities for them to work with the very best."

The New Opportunities Fund was designed to help launch the careers of new and talented faculty and help institutions recruit exceptional scholars in priority areas for research. The funding is earmarked for specific research projects and covers 40 per cent of the infrastructure costs, with the remaining funds coming from private-, public- and voluntary-sector partners.

"I am thrilled to receive this news from CFI," says Prof. Lindsay Robinson, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, who received \$116,611 to set up an integrative nutritional sciences and metabolic physiology laboratory.

"This funding for state-of-the-art equipment will be a tremendous help in establishing my new lab. I am very excited about the research possibilities this will provide to my lah, my students and my colleagues and collaborators.3

Robinson will study how critical metabolic biomarkers respond to diet and/or exercise, research with applications to human health and obesity-related chronic diseases such as type-2 diahetes and cardiovascu-

Prof. Kendall Swanson, Animal and Poultry Science, who was awarded \$118,27S, says his funding

will provide infrastructure that will enable the development of a comprehensive and collaborative research program that measures physiological responses to nutrition and animal breeding programs at the whole animal, tissue, cellular and molecular levels.

U of G's other New Opportunities recipients are:

- · Prof. Heidi Bailey, Psychology, \$108,674 to study the effect of maternal history of maltreatment on the mother-child attachment relationship and children's socioemotional development;
- Prof. Gregoy Bédécarrats, Animal and Poultry Science, \$124,627 for a lab to study molecular endocrinology and immunology in poul-
- Prof. Mario Monteiro, Chemistry, \$79,448 for carbohydrate structural analysis; and
- Ximing Wu, Economics, \$70,S33 for his work on computer-intensive methods for labour and applied welfare economics.

ENGINEER IS MEMBER OF

Prof. Lambert Otten, director of the School of Engineering, was invited by Toronto Mayor David Miller to sit on the city's new Round Table on the Environment, a 14-member advisory body made up of experts in environmental practice and policy. Otten is the only member of the group who doesn't live in the greater Toronto area, In 2004, he was an expert member and adviser with Toronto's New and Emerging Technologies, Policies and Practices Advisory Group.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECOGNIZED

Owen Roberts, director of research communications in the Office of Research, has been named an hongrary life member of the Ontario Institute of Agrologists in recognition of his contributions to Ontario agriculture. The award will be presented at the OIA annual conference next month in Hamilton.

PROF IS KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Prof. Marion Joppe, director of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, was a keynote speaker at a recent networking event held in Toronto by the Women's Foodservice Forum and its partners, Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning and Unilever Foodsolutions.

Ideas for Improving Food Safety on the Menu at Talks

Experts representing consumers, industry, government and academics gather

BY ANDREW VOWLES

UST HOW SAFE is Canada's food? The answer proves to be equivocal, even for food science professor Mansel Griffiths, director of the Canadian Research Institute for Food Safety (CRIFS) at the University of Guelph

"We do have a fairly safe food supply in Canada," says Griffiths. "It's not as if we have catastrophic outbreaks. When you think of Canadian food, you think of the safest food in the world."

Lowering the risk of food-borne illness and helping to ensure that various agencies, industry and academics have a comprehensive picture of food safety in Canada are the goals of a symposium and two-day workshop he has organized in Guelph this week.

The event, which brings together experts in food safety representing consumers, industry, government and academics, is intended to discuss ideas on improving food safety and security to be shared with regulators, industry and other groups. Organizers hope to write a set of recommendations to guide regulators and governments in developing a comprehensive national food-safety

"We thought it was an opportune time to bring the interested parties together to look at the system holistically and try to identify things we're doing right and maybe things that could be improved," says Griffiths, who holds an Industrial Dairy Chair in Microbiology

A key improvement would see regulators and government inspectors collecting and sharing basic information about illnesses caused by contaminated food. He estimates that, for every case reported to authorities, up to 300 cases may go unreported. (Based on U.S. estimates of as many as 76 million cases of food-borne illness a year, Canada may see seven million such cases annually.)

More comprehensive information is fragmented among federal and provincial agencies, including Health Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the recently created Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), says Griffiths. Contrast that with the system of so-called sentinel sites for data collection and communication run by the United States.

"The problem with food safety in Canada has been the difficulty in getting information on how many people come down with food-borne illnesses and the sources of those illnesses," he says.

Learning more about the extent of the problem may help in designing better ways to prevent disease and sickness. He'd like to see co-ordinated surveillance of those illnesses and more integrated inspection, from federal oversight of international exporters to municipal inspection of restaurants and food

Griffiths suggests that universities, including U of G, may become part of a sentinel network patterned after that in the United States. Referring to Guelph research in such topics as food ecology, epidemiology, microbiology, food policy and process engineering, he says: "We have arguably the largest single number of people working in this area in Canada."

Among other projects, he studies techniques for detecting microbes such as Salmonella in food, including micro-organisms that might be used in bioterrorism. He notes that CRIFS recently earned accreditation for Level 3 biocontainment. (About 40 laboratories in Canada are designated Level 3. Health Canada's National Microbiology Lab in Winnipeg is the only biosafety Level 4 lab in the country, built to allow scientists to work safely with the most deadly human and animal pathogens.)

Delegates to this week's Guelph symposium include U of G faculty from the Ontario Agricultural College and the Ontario Veterinary College. The group will discuss food-safety research, education and training, surveillance, inspection, and policies and regulations.

The event is sponsored by the Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Program, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Health Canada, CFIA, PHAC, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Canadian Partnership for Consumer Food Safety Education, the Ontario Food Protection Association, U of G, the Guelph Food Technology Centre, Steritech and

IN MEMORIAM

FLIZABETH WINEGARD

Elizabeth Winegard, wife of former U of G president Bill Winegard, died March 12. During Bill Winegard's tenure from 1967 to 197S, Elizabeth Winegard was "a cornerstone of the community," says president Alastair Summerlee. Predeceased by her daughter, Kathryn, she is survived by her husband; two sons, Bill and Charles; six grandchildren; and three greatgrandchildren. A tree will be planted in her memory in the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest.

LLOYD THACKERAY

Lloyd Thackeray, a retired senior technician in the Department of Pathobiology, died March 10 at the age of 77. He was employed at Guelph from 1949 to 1988. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; a son, Peter; and two grandchildren. A tree will be planted in his memory in the Wall-Custance Memorial

She Hoops to Conquer

BY REBECCA KENDALL

N 1988, U of G was looking to hire a new coach to lead the Gryphon women's basketball team. At the time, 25-year-old Angela Orton had worn a jersey for the University of Toronto Varsity Blues for five years and had captained the team to a CIAU National Championship. She had also spent five years with the Junior National and Canadian National teams and was a four-time OWIAA all-star and three-time All-Canadian

Although Orton's résumé as a player was strong, her coaching experience consisted of only one year as assistant coach of women's basketball at Seneca College.

"Guelph was looking for a young coach, and they were looking for a female," she says. "I was given an opportunity that I'm exceptionally thankful for."

Her challenge at the time was to make the shift from being a powerful force on the hardwood to being a powerful force off the court.

"Good players don't necessarily make good coaches," she says. "Coaching is very different."

As a coach, she had to reassess how to have an impact on the game from the sidelines. She was no longer a player with the ability to perform, but now a coach with limits.

To be a good coach, says Orton, you must be competitive and have the ability to adapt to all kinds of conditions in your team and in your opposition. Analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the players and making quick but good management and tactical decisions are also imperative, she says.

"As a coach, you have to be very cognizant of your personnel. I don't think you should control your athletes. You have to teach them to be disciplined to make good decisions on their own and have the confidence to implement their decisions."

Last month, all this work culminated in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championship in women's basketball, Guelph's first since 1981. Now that Orton's young team, led by three second-year co-captains, has tasted victory at the provincial level and learned what it takes to capture it, she believes the bar has been raised for women's basketball at U of G. "The potential for us to grow is phenomenal," she says.

During the basketball season, Orton works out her players for 2½ hours a day. She spends another five to six hours watching and breaking down game film, meeting with her assistant coaches, visiting and communicating with players she's recruiting for future seasons, as well as their coaches, and planning team practices.

This is all on top of her duties as an associate director of athletics and manager of the University's intercollegiate programs. In the areas, her responsibilities include overseeing the budgets and scheduling of 30 intercollegiate programs, being a resource for other coaches, ensuring that teams are meeting the requirements and demands of the league, and handling any disciplinary problems that may arise.



Angela Orton

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

She's also responsible for booking travel and accommodations for U of G sports teams when they're playing out of town. And twice a year, she attends OUA meetings to discuss rule changes, regulations, eligibility requirements for players, and the promotion of anti-doping education.

Orton's commitment to coaching spans beyond the court and lasts well beyond the final buzzer. She's available to her players around-the-clock and aims to not only strengthen them physically but also strengthen their character.

"I really believe we're developing people and citizens, and we've always felt very strongly about that as a coaching staff," she says. "Our expectations aren't limited to the time spent in the gym each day, it's how they conduct themselves as human beings."

Sport teaches responsibility, team-building, priority management, ethics and discipline, she says.

For Orton, sports are an integral part of her life, and she wants people to know that there's more to coaching than what they see from the stands.

"A lot of people aren't really aware of what we do as a profession, and that's very, very frustrating from the coaching perspective. People think we just roll the balls out or drop the pucks and that we babysit for a few hours while the kids play around, then we go and compete. Coaching is not just the two hours you're on the ice, in the pool, in the gym or on the field. It's the hours and hours of preparation that go into it."

Retrofit Project Crops Campus Utility Bills

Conserving energy and water is key to Crop Science Building retrofit

BY ANDREW VOWLES

of G has completed an energy retrofit of the Crop Science Building as one of several projects intended to improve energy consumption on campus. The project, including installation of energy-efficient lighting and airhandling systems as well as water conservation measures, is expected to reduce the University's energy and water bills by about \$205,000 a year, based on current costs, says Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration).

Those expected savings include reduced water use, lower use of electricity and natural gas, and deferred-maintenance savings.

The retrofit cost about \$870,000.

The project was one of a number of water and energy conservation initiatives completed or proposed around the U of G campus, says Sullivan. Those initiatives include replacing building automation systems, completing boiler control and water-treatment projects, improving the campus-wide tunnel steam system, and extending a heat-recovery system to the planned extension of the MacKinnon Building.

During a recent tour of the Crop Science Building led by representatives of Toronto-based MCW Custom Energy Solutions Ltd., students, staff and faculty learned about key aspects of the project, including:

 New energy-efficient lamps have been installed in overhead fixtures throughout most of the building's rooms and corridors on all four floors.

Upgrades to the air-handling unit serving the building's teaching facilities — including classrooms and teaching labs — allow air flow to be automatically increased as more people occupy the rooms and to be reduced when the rooms are empty. (The previous system pumped through the same amount of air at a constant temperature without adjusting for use.) The new system reduces heating and cooling requirements and saves electricity needed to run the fans.

• New lighting and air-handling equipment were installed in the building's 11 plant growth rooms. By dispensing with the large arrays of ballast (transformers that formerly provided energy to the lights), the new system with its energy-efficient fluorescent lighting makes it easier to replace burnt-out lamps. (Still interspersed with those fluorescent lamps are incandescent bulbs whose wavelengths signal "day length" to trigger flowering in alfalfa and beans crowding the growth tables in one typical room.)

 As in the classroom wing, fans pushing air through the growth rooms are now under new variable controls. Previously, the fans had to

run constantly at high speed just to disperse the heat generated by the lights and maintain the desired temperature. Pointing to the new control panel on the wall of the adjoining mechanical room, growth facilities technician Dietmar Scholz says normal conversation would have been nearly impossible here. After the new system was installed, he says, the biggest complaint was: "Are the growth rooms working properly! It's so quiet."

"We will continue to improve energy use by selecting projects with the potential for the greatest efficiencies and, therefore, the best return on invested capital."

The project also included installation of draft-cutting seals and door sweeps around all exterior doors of the building. In addition, energy and water use has been reduced in washrooms by adding electronic sensors to control urinal flushing and installing aerators on sink faucets.

The Crop Science Building was chosen for the retrofit because its research-intensive activities offered potential for greater efficiencies, says Sullivan.

"Water conservation measures in the retrofit are an area the University will be reviewing very carefully, given their quick payback of less than two years and the high priority that the City of Guelph is placing on water conservation."

Modifications to the building's mechanical systems are expected to pay for themselves in six to nine years.

The University is currently discussing a large-scale campus water conservation project with the city's environmental services department.

"Since reduced water consumption is advantageous to both parties, the city may be in a position to offer financial incentives to a project here at the University," says Dan Maclachlan, assistant executive director of Facilities Support Services in Physical Resources.

Third-year ecology student Andrea Ellis says energy retrofits are "environmentally beneficial cost-saving programs that invest in efficient technologies to cut unnecessary waste." Ellis is a member of the Renewable Energy Group, part of Guelph Students for Environmental Change, which has called for a \$400.000 to the content of the Chiversity.

The Crop Science Building is "a really good example of what could be

implemented campus-wide," she says.

The University is committed to energy conservation, says Sullivan, but under fiscal constraints, the institution also needs to consider critical safety-related deferred-maintenance issues. These include deteriorating steam lines for heating buildings and structural repairs such as roof repairs.

"The University is also reviewing whether there are facilities that should be taken out of use due to their deteriorated state, energy inefficiency and lack of physical accessibility," she says. "In the interim, we will continue to improve energy use by selecting projects with the potential for the greatest efficiencies and, therefore, the best return on invested capital."

Sullivan says the recently released Rae report on post-secondary education called for a major renewal of university facilities over the next decade.

"Should this funding become a reality, the University will be able to accelerate the modification of outdated mechanical and electrical systems, which are key to energy conservation,"

For more information about campus energy and environmental initiatives, check out the new Physical Resources sustainability website located at www.pr.uoguelph.ca/sustain.

Co-op Students, Local Employer Honoured for Contributions

U of G presents annual co-operative education awards to food and computing science students, health agency

OT MANY UNIVERSITY students can go into a well-known Canadian restaurant chain and order a dish off the menu that they created. But Cheryl Lou-Hing can.

As a co-op student at Campbell Soup Company of Canada, the fourth-year food science major developed a new pot pie that is now being served in Montana's Cookhouse restaurants across the country.

"I was approached by the corporate chef to create a product that would allow the restaurant to reduce food costs and food waste," says Lou-Hing. She came up with the idea for a pot pie and ran through several prototypes with the chef before they agreed on a recipe. "Then it was off to the races," she says.

On the last day of her work term, Lou-Hing's colleagues at Campbell's took her out to lunch. They went to Montana's, of course, and she ordered her creation for the first time. "It was my proudest moment to this day," she says.

Lou-Hing and fourth-year computing science student Zachary Kominar will be honoured as Guelph's nominees for National Co-op Student of the Year during the annual National Co-operative Education Week Awards Luncheon March 24.

At the event, U of G will also recognize the Public Health Agency of Canada's Laboratory of Foodborne Zoonoses as its Co-op Employer of the Year, and Kominar will be awarded the Guelph Co-op Student of the Year Award.

Working for Campbell's was Lou-Hing's fourth and final work term as a co-op student. In addition to developing the pot pie, she has been credited with generating about \$130,000 for the company from new accounts and cost-savings sugges-

She plans to graduate this June and says her experience in co-op was "invaluable

"What I have gained, other than almost two years of related experience and a less-thau-average student debt, is confidence. Campbell's gave me a lot of responsibility on my work term, and by the end, I had the same workload as the rest of the product developers. I feel confident knowing that my co-op experiences have given me the skills and knowledge to enter the working world."

For his part, Kominar says his co-op work placements allowed him to "experience my future one semester at a time. I was able to gain real-world experience that was relevant to my computing degree."

Kominar worked for Research in Motion and for U of G's Teaching Support Services, where he developed the Faculty Resource Information Network, which centralizes and tracks all aspects of courseware support activities and integrates them into the user's database.

"Co-op opened my eyes to what my career might be like in the computer industry," he says. "It had a dramatic effect on my choice of ca-

As a result of his work terms, Kominar ended up "challenging my perceptions of myself" and making some different decisions about his future. "I decided to pursue a longtime dream of studying law," he says, adding that he will attend Bond University in Australia.

Gaining that kind of work and life experience is extremely valuable, and that's what co-op is all about, says Andrew Kramer, who co-ordinates U of G's science co-op offerings. "In addition, as a co-op. student, you often have the opportunity to live and work in different cities and experience different cultures. which is also an advantage.

Now in its 24th year, U of G's co-op program has more than 2,000 students and about 800 new students entering every year. It runs co-op offerings in 34 academic

Guelph is recognized as a leader in post-secondary co-operative education in Ontario and has the third highest co-op enrolment among the province's universities, says Karen Reimer, director of U of G's co-op education program. Nationally, close to 80,000 Canadian students are enrolled in co-op programs at 78 institutions.

"Co-op is a win-win situation," ays Reimer. "Students acquire life skills, and employers can hire academically strong and motivated employees."

The Laboratory of Foodborne Zoonoses has been hiring U of G students since the co-op program began in 1981. In the past decade, 54 students have worked there, many of them for more than one term. The company was nominated for the Co-op Employer of the Year Award by Prof. Cecil Forsberg, co-op microbiology faculty adviser, and four former students.

"Guelph has been so successful in co-op because of our outstanding students and our outstanding employers, who work hard to ensure our students are challenged and come away with important skills and experience," says Reimer. "It's a great partnership."



Prof. Jonathan Newman considers global warming from various sides.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALRE

Kudos for Kyoto

Studying aphids offers new OAC prof an entree to climate change debate

BY ANDREW VOWLES

T'S FEB. 16 - Kyoto Day, the day the global climate change accord comes into effect in Canada. Good or bad? Prof. Jonathan Newman, Environmental Biology, considers before replying: "On the whole, it's a good day.

Calling the Kyoto agreement "an imperfect treaty, but a good first step," Newman applauds the federal government's move to implement the accord. Ottawa has yet to develop a detailed strategy for meeting Canada's commitments under the climate treaty. But the recently arrived Guelph scientist sees hope in the country's promise to get serious about cutting emissions of heattrapping greenhouse gases.

Characteristically, Newman's enthusiasm is tempered by considerations of other currents scientific, political, even ethical drifting through the atmosphere of that "imperfect treaty." He recognizes the heated and sometimes acrimonious debate that has swirled around global warming, particularly in the run-up to the accord's implementation in Canada last month.

Part of that debate was triggered by research by U of G economics professor Ross McKitrick, whose recent study of the so-called "hockey stick" model of global temperature change over the past century has cast doubt on the science underlying the argument for Kyoto itself, Referring to McKitrick and his co-author, Newman says: "They seem to have found a real problem with that piece of work."

Layer in political issues and the problem of explaining risk and probability to a public looking for relatively simple answers, and it's little wonder that skepticism abounds over the benefits of Kyoto and even about the nature of the problem to begin with. Newman still subscribes to the consensus stated in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change embodied in Kyoto: "The body of evidence for climate change is sufficiently strong to

warrant our serious attention."

It's an issue that has claimed his attention in recent years and one that continues to occupy him here at Guelph. He studies the effects of climate change on cereal aphids and their temperate grassland surround-

Apart from what these insects may tell us about global warming, he says they're important to agronomists because they're serious plant pests that carry disease-causing viruses harmful to cereal crops worldwide.

"Like most ecologists, I'm more interested in questions than in systems.

Leaving control efforts to other researchers, Newman hopes to use the aphid - and associated grasses and fungi whose toxic compounds can also poison grazing animals as a system for tracking the effects of changes in carbon dioxide, temperature and other climate change variables. Ecologists have found that those factors affect populations of aphids, although their results have been ambiguous

Newman's work suggests it's important to account for variables other than CO, and temperature, including amounts of nitrogen in the system. He has developed mathematical models to predict how varying temperature and CO, especially affects this system, using data from the U.K. Climate Impacts Program.

Until last summer, Newman's home base was England, where he was a zoology lecturer at Oxford University. That posting was actually a return engagement. Following his undergraduate and PhD studies in biology and ecology at the State University of New York, he had landed a post-doc at Oxford, then returned to the States for a faculty position at Southern Illinois University.

This semester, Newman will give research lectures in various departments and units on topics ranging from education to climate change to the ethics of animal use. His interest in bioethics overlaps with that of his partner and Oxford colleague, Prof. Georgia Mason. Last spring, Mason was offered a Canada Research Chair in Animal Welfare at U of G, which prompted Newman to look for a position here as well.

Explaining his interest in bioethics, he says solving environmental problems involves more than iust science.

"Climate change research can answer questions about what might happen, and bioethics can address the question of what we ought to do about what might happen.

Recycling Tip of the Month

atteries are neither recyclable nor garbage but are considered hazardous waste because of their chemical contents. Campus departments that use a lot of batteries can deal directly with Environmental Health and Safety to establish a regular pickup. Sn1all quantities can be dropped off at depots at the Central Student Association office on Level 2 of the University Centre and OPIRG on Trent Lane, Off campus, batteries should be taken to the City of www.pr.uoguelph.ca/recycle Guelph hazardous waste depot.



A Nasty Strain — and a Nastier Sting

Environmental biologist says beekeepers are abuzz over possibility of killer bees entering Canada

BY ANDREW VOWLES

ONEYBEE EXPERT Prof. Ernesto Guzman landed in a hornet's nest of sorts when he arrived from Mexico to join the Department of Environmental Biology in the fall. He found Ontario beekeepers in the midst of a battle against counterparts mostly in Western Canada to import California honeybees that may include the Africanized or so-called killer bee.

Last year, Canada opened the border to imports of honeybee queens from the United States, ending an 18-year ban on shipments of American mainland bees.

"Canada didn't want to import diseases like the ones caused by varroa and tracheal mites," says Guzman, referring to afflictions with potentially devastating effects on homegrown bee colonies.

Nor did Canadian beekeepers want more aggressive and potentially deadly Africanized bees mixed in with their normal honeybee cousins.

Pressure mainly from beekeepers in Alberta, British Columbia and Manitoba — important sources of Canadian honey — led to removal of the import restrictions. Although Canada had always allowed in bees from abroad — including Australia, New Zealand and Hawaii — many beekeepers, particularly in western provinces, believe California queen bees are superior.

Guzman says the new protocol, due to take effect this spring, will allow imports of queens from California breeders within about 160



Prof. Ernesto Guzman led Mexico's apiculture research program before coming to U of G.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

kilometres of where killer strains have been reported. Although the Africanized strains cannot survive a Canadian winter naturally, they may overwinter if kept in sheltered Canadian colonies.

Guzman says the Ontario Beekeepers' Association, an organization whose roots in the late 19th century predate even the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF), wants to see more comprehensive inspection of bees shipped from across the border. Current testing of mitochondrial genetic material (maternal rather than paternal)

DNA) provides only about 60-per-cent assurance that the bees are European rather than Africanized strains.

The Ontario group wants to see adoption of another test — measuring the size of different body parts, including forewing length — that Guzman says would make the identification virtually foolproof. He says OMAF plans to propose this step to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, although any subsequent inspection change will occur next year, not this year.

Killer bees belong to the same species of Apis mellifera as the garden-variety honeybees found in Ontario. But having developed in a different environment, Africanized bees are more aggressive. Killer bees are more easily provoked into stinging than European bees are and will sting far more frequently.

"Africanized bees can sting seven to 20 times more than European bees," Guzman says, adding that the venom is the same in both strains.

Although European bee stings don't usually kill people, Africanized bees have killed thousands. In Mexico, more than 400 people were killed between 1988 and 2000. (Neither strain is native to the Americas. Bees were brought to South America in the 1700s; African bees were imported to Brazil about 50 years ago in an attempt to increase honey production.)

Guzman and his colleagues in Mexico and the United States were the first researchers to pinpoint the gene responsible for defensive behaviour in killer bees. As a research entomologist at the National Institute for Agricultural and Animal Research, he led Mexico's apiculture research program and was an adjunct professor at the National University of Mexico. Looking for more career prospects, he accepted a position at U of G.

He'll work closely with the Ontario Beekeepers' Association, not only on killer bees but also on such problems as honeybee diseases caused by mites and bee-breeding programs. Along with other researchers at U of G and OMAF, including the Townsend House colonies on campus, Guzman is studying the development of bees resistant to varroa mites and testing natural control products that leave honey residue-free.

He plans to develop a molecular lab to find DNA markers associated with traits of economic interest in honeybees. And, as with many other bee researchers, he's interested in the insects' social life, including their hierarchical structure and intricate communication mechanisms.

That social behaviour was partly what sparked his interest initially. "I began working with bees when I was a teenager," he says.

Although bee stings generally don't bother him, Guzman concedes that being stung about 100 times on one occasion was a bit excessive.

He completed veterinary studies in Mexico before pursuing bee research for his graduate degrees at the University of California at Davis. His work at Guelph is funded by OMAF and the Ontario Beekeepers' Association.

Music With Activist Overtones

New 'Rebel Music' seminar helps students bridge classroom learning with global education

BY REBECCA KENDALL

HAT DOES IT MEAN to practise political resistance through music making? How are human rights and music making explicitly linked? How does musical activism resonate in practical political terms? For students in English professor Daniel Fischlin's "Rebel Musics" class, being offered for the first time through U of G's Office of First-Year Studies, successfully answering these questions not only means a passing grade, but it also means that a group of women in an underdeveloped Ghanaian village come closer to becoming self-sufficient.

In a unique assignment, Fischlin asked members of his seminar class to develop a targeted and focused intervention to educate and raise public consciousness about a particular issue and make a specific contribution to their chosen cause. His aim is to bridge classroom learning with global education.

"I wanted to avoid traditional evaluation markers like exams and

papers," he says. "What I've been finding recently, and increasingly so, is that students want to feel they're connecting with something that's practical."

Fischlin is teaching how music by artists from Bob Marley and Rage Against the Machine to a lone African drummer is used to evoke social and political change. In many cases, he says, people overlook the impact the arts can have as an agent for progress.

"Too often, it's left to international development experts or to the legal community or to social scientists or whomever. The arts get left off the table when people are thinking of ways to help and to promote human rights. This course is about rethinking that."

After much discussion, class members decided to help women in the Ghanaian village of Gbonyonga. Working with the Northern Empowerment Association in Ghana, an organization supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the students are raising money to help 10 women,

many of them widowed with children, become self-sufficient by starting their own small businesses.

Gbonyonga, a village that has fewer than 200 people, no electricity, no motor vehicles and no hospital or school, is one of the most underdeveloped villages in the country. Al-

"This seminar course is allowing me to take education and activate it, make it do something, something I didn't believe I had a chance to do until I had my degree on paper."

though children can take classes in a neighbouring village, there isn't one girl who has been educated past Grade 6. The main occupation of villagers is subsistence farming, specifically yams, cassava, millet and maize.

After learning that villagers live on less than \$1 a day — many less than 50 cents — Fischlin's class is hoping to raise \$1,300 to give the women training and supplies to start their own peanut farms. Each woman will also receive a goat to start a flock, which will eventually provide a supplemental income. In addition, they will receive instruction in farming-related matters and will learn about human reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and the value of educating girls. Each dollar raised by the class will be matched by CIDA.

The class has developed an outreach campaign and is organizing a benefit concert to be held March 31 at 7 p.m. at the Bullring. It will feature performances by local bands and authentic African song and dance.

The students have also developed an informational website and will take part in a series of radio shows on CFRU to raise awareness.

"I'm learning something here that I don't think any textbook can offer me," says student Laura Bydlowska. "This seminar course is allowing me to take education and activate it, make it do something, something I didn't believe I had a chance to do until I had my degree on paper."

Bydlowska says she and her classmates will finish the course with a heightened understanding of human rights and global conditions.

"I think this class has opened my eyes to seeing my education as something that can make an impact."

Fischlin hopes his students have learned the importance of conquering the boundary between thought and activism. He also wants them to recognize that the actions of one person can make a difference and to feel empowered.

"We have a chance to make a huge difference for this really underprivileged village, and that's what's been driving all of this," he says. "I think the students are excited that not only are they being led through the process and they're learning, but they're also going to have made a difference by the end of their course."

Fischlin hopes to continue to build on this work and expand aid to Gbonyonga by assigning this project in all future offerings of his "Rebel Musics" seminar.

No-Holds-Barred

Sex educator tells it like it is (sorry, Mom) on top-rated TV show

By Lori Bona Hunt

HE TELEPHONE CALL came out of the blue. Guelph graduate Robin Milhausen was at her desk at the University of Indiana, knee-deep in research for her dissertation. A TV producer from Alliance Atlantis was on the line. Would she be interested in flying to Toronto to screen test for a new show on the Life Network?

"When they called me, I was literally surrounded by piles of papers and journal articles, living at my computer 20 hours a day," she says.

Milhausen, who carned an undergraduate degree in psychology and a master's degree in human development and human relations from U of G, had no experience in television. She had never acted, modelled or worked in broadcasting. At the time, she was a doctoral candidate at the world-renowned Kinsey Institute in Indiana and already an award-winning and published researcher. She had her sights set on being a sex educator and professor.

But after she hung up the phone, Milhausen shut down her computer, packed her bags and caught a plane back to Canada.

"We were shooting within a month. It was all very exciting and as different from grad school as you can get."

The program Milhausen co-hosts, Sex, Toys & Chocolate, started airing Friday nights on the Life Network last May. Less than a year later, it's among the highest-tast shows on the network. In fact, it's so popular, it's already in "reruns" and can now be seen every night of the week.

The show is known for its refreshing format and open and frank discussions on topics such as dating, relationships, gender barriers, sexuality, and sexual health and behaviour.

"Nothing like it has ever existed before," says Milhausen.
"The producers were looking for someone who was a sex researcher who could moderate, dispel myths and start conversations."

She says they called her after hearing about her research and listening to a tape of a call-in radio show she did once for adolescents.

Sex, Toys & Chocolate has a new subject matter each week and features different male and female guests who exchange views and experiences — no-holds-barred. In each episode, Milhausen and her co-host, Michael Cho, also incorporate games intended to put their guests at ease and lower their inhibitions. There are few taboos.

"After teaching and researching about sex for so many years, there's not much that can make me blush," Milhausen says.

But, she adds with a laugh, her parents had to become accustomed to having their only child — and having their friends see their only child — discussing such issues on TV.

"They had 11 years — the time I spent in university — to get used to it, but still..."

Since the show first aired, Milhausen has finished her PhD and started work as a post-doctoral researcher at the School of Public Health at Emory University in Atlanta. She admits that



juggling an academic career and a top-rated TV show is a challenge.

Each week during the four months a year the show is in production, Milhausen spends Monday and Tuesday developing interventions to prevent sexual risk-taking among young people, then catches a plane to Toronto on Wednesday to spend a day in planning meetings with producers for the show. On Friday and Saturday, she tapes two shows each day, then flies back to Georgia on Sunday.

"It's crazy. When the show first started, there was a six-month period where I finished writing a dissertation, defended my PhD, planned a wedding, got married, moved to another state and shot 40 episodes. But I don't think you can get through graduate school without being a good time manager."

As a graduate student and post-doctoral researcher, Milhausen has published a variety of research articles that have appeared in publications such as the American Journal of Health Education and Journal of Sex Research.

Her early research focused on adolescent sex and risk-taking behaviour, including when she was at U of G.

"All the Guelph faculty, and the entire department, were so supportive of me as a student and of my research," she says, adding that she applied to several undergraduate psychology programs before choosing Guelph after a visit here with her

"Everyone was so friendly and warm, and the campus so beautiful, we knew right away it would be perfect. It had a well-respected psychology department, too, and academic reputation was important."

It was at the urging of her mentor, now retired family relations professor Ed Herold, that she applied to Indiana's doctoral program. While there, she received the Outstanding Student Research Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality and became the youngest member of the International Academy of Sex Research, a prestigious invitation-only organization.

Milhausen says she continues to feel an affinity with and deep affection for U of G.

"Gutlph gave me the foundation I needed to achieve the success I've had. It also gave me confidence in my academic ability, which has allowed me to reach my real potential as a scholar. It's where I got the training to do what I'm doing, and I love what I do."

Her current research focuses on the dynamics of human sexuality, and her PhD dissertation was on women and sex.

"I take a non-medical approach to women's sexuality, looking at factors that influence women's sex lives and sexual arousal: children, relationships, jobs, financial worries."

Milhausen will return to Canada in the fall to start another post-doctoral research position, this time at the Social Justice and Sexual Health Research Centre at the University of Windsor. She says she's delighted to be coming back home and still aspires to become a full-fledged professor.

She considers hosting the TV show a perfect fit with her career in academia.

"It's helping me to stay current in my research and to share my findings with the world. I think all academics want to translate what they're doing so it's applicable and acceptable to the general public. We want to see our research used to make a positive change in people's lives."

Although that life-changing call Milhausen received from the TV producer took her by surprise, what has transpired since is actually right in line with what she envisioned doing with her future.

Growing up in Collingwood, Milhausen learned a lot about sex by watching esteemed Canadian sex therapist Sue Johanson on TV.

"She was my role model, and I always wanted to take steps towards a career that would follow a similar path."

Milhausen knew from an early age that she wanted to study the sexuality of young people, particularly young women.

"Navigating through puberty, negotiating dating and relationships, coming to terms with your sexual identity — these are extremely difficult and important life tasks. It wasn't easy for me, and it isn't easy for most adolescents. I wanted to learn everything I could about the process to, in some way, make it easier for young people."

Nutritionists Develop Early Warning System

Checklist gauges whether young children are at low, medium or high risk for common nutritional problems

BY KATE ROBERTS SPARK PROGRAM

AMID GROWING CONCERNS and health and nutrition — especially obesity — U of G researchers are developing an "early warning system" they hope will provide parents with knowledge about their preschoolers' nutrition risks.

Profs. Heather Keller and Janis Randall Simpson, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, along with Joanne Beyers and Lee Rysdale of the Sudbury and District Health Unit, are leading the development of a new screening checklist on childhood nutrition — SutriSTEP — for parents. It gauges whether young children are at low, medium or high risk for common nutritional problems such as being underweight or overweight and having an iron deficiency caused by lack of variety in their diet.

The researchers believe the checklist will be quicker, cheaper and more realistic than bringing in dietitians to examine individual children. It's aimed at children between

the ages of three and five.

"There needs to be a way to assess nutritional risk in early childhood around preschooler age—in a realistic and cost-effective way," says Randall Simpson. "This is a key time period for their growth and development."

Along with the checklist, parents can refer to the supplementary educational booklets that are also provided for answers to many of their nutrition questions and concerns. These documents have been recognized by Dictitians of Canada.

Randall Simpson and her collaborators are planning to compare the checklist results with actual dietitians' assessments to ensure the checklist is valid. Beginning in May, 300 parents in Sudbury, London and Toronto will complete the screening checklist, then meet with a dietitian who will perform a full nutritional assessment on the parents' preschool children. The assessment will include food intake, weight and height measurements and overall health and physical activity.

"It's our hope that the rating of

nutritional risk from the checklist will match the risk from the dietitians' assessment," says Randall Simpson.

If the checklist can be validated, she hopes it will be used to screen for children's health and nutrition in many settings, from preschool and junior kindergarten classrooms to doctors' offices.

The project was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Ontario Early Years Challenge Fund, City of Greater Sudbury and Health Canada.

Restructuring of OMAF Contract Continues

Cost-savings initiatives proposed to help achieve balanced budget, position partnership for the future

BY LORI BONA HUNT

or G is Continuing to restructure programs and services offered under its contract with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) to achieve a balanced budget and position the partnership for the future.

The restructuring process began in 2002 when U of G and OMAF renewed their enhanced partnership. Funding for the contract was fixed at \$50.5 million annually through 2007, an amount that has been constant since 1999. Under the agree-

ment, the University manages the research and education programs and related facilities previously managed by the ministry.

"Although there has been no reduction from the ministry over the past several years, funding for the contract has remained fixed," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research).

"To deal with inflation and other cost increases, we must continually restructure to work within the budget provided in the agreement. We have to reach the point where the revenue-generating capacity of the research and services activities under the contract can cover the annual inflationary costs."

Cost-savings initiatives proposed for the 2005/2006 OMAF budget include 23 positions being identified as redundant. All but two of the positions are on the main campus, and the University has been working closely with the affected employee

"This doesn't necessarily mean that incumbents will leave the University," says Wildeman. "Redeployments to other funded positions and voluntary buyouts will be looked at first. Layoffs are a last resort, and we can't assume layoffs will happen because we have redundancies."

The most recent cost-savings and revenue-increasing initiatives are part of a strategic plan for change within the OMAF contract that started in 2002. The plan included focusing services on priority areas for research in education and eliminating duplication through consolidation and streamlining of existing services.

"In recent years, we have refocused the partnership to ensure that research, education and programs respond effectively to the needs of students and to the changing needs and challenges facing the agriculture, food and rural sectors," Wildeman

He adds that U of G tried for many years to continue to offer services at the same level that existed when the partnership began in 1997. But that required the University to redirect funding from other sources to cover costs initially funded through the partnership.

"The fiscal reality was that we could no longer continue to sustain the programs in this manner, and we had to look to make permanent changes. These most recent adjustments are part of that ongoing process."

The Role — and Roll — of Robots

HBNS researchers use 'rock-and-roll robots' to study arthritis in knees and whiplash in accident victims

BY ANDREW VOWLES

ROF. Jim DICKEY, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, initially wanted the new robots for studying arthritis and related knee ailments in horses and humans. That explains the leg bones — or at least the plastic reproductions of leg bones — in his lab in the Animal Science and Nutrition Building. But what do knee joints or robots have to do with that authentic full-size car sear mounted on a platform at the end of the lab? And where exactly are the robots anyway?

From osteoarthritis in knees to whiplash in car accident victims, Dickey says his recently acquired machines will allow him to collect better data that may ultimately help in preventing and treating a variety of ailments. Studying arthritis is the primary purpose of the two robotic devices purchased last year with about \$750,000 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. Along with his graduate students, he plans to use the equipment to test joint loads and provide information to help prevent and treat joint disorders.

"Part of the beauty of what we're doing is that we'll be able to work with any joint," says Dickey. He's working with Prof. Mark Hurtig, Clinical Studies, who has developed animal models of human disease. Their work is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Canadian Arthritis Network.

Joint ailments leave thousands of horses lame or arthritic in Canada each year, and arthritis affects millions of people worldwide. Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis, affecting about one in 10 Canadians. Wear and tear causes cartilage to break down, leading to painful inflammation of the joints.

Says Dickey: "Our first work will be with animals, but we're aiming at humans."

Controlled by computers mounted on adjoining lab benches, the equipment occupies a floor-to-ceiling metal frame that fills most of the back end of his lab. It doesn't have the stereotypical robotic arms used in making cars or servicing space shuttles. Instead, the robot resembles a simplified merry-goround.

The robot's base is a metal hoop almost four feet across. Running around its face is a groove that accommodates ball-and-socket joints for six arms spaced at intervals around the hoop. The arms are connected at the other end to a solid disk half the diameter of the hoop. Powered by servo-electric motors, the arms can move in either direction along the groove, turning the disk back and forth.

Natasha Lee Shee, a master's student of Dickey's, has begun programming one of the two robots for use in testing knees. The circular motion of that robot, which is mounted vertically like a wall clock, translates into flexing and extension of leg bones fitted to the disk. Monitors on a prosthesis or on real leg bones can then provide information about joint loads.

Far from being restricted to turning, the robotic arms themselves can swivel up and down and in various directions, in concert or independently. That means the equipment can mimic a variety of pitching and yawing movements, including the kinds of motions experienced by passengers during a car accident.

That explains the car seat attached to a wooden board atop the second robot, mounted on the floor. Seated before the second computer monitor, Dickey points to the code he's written to instruct the robot to follow a programmed series of movements. He strikes a key, then watches as the robot moves back into "cocked" position, then lunges forward. A few more keystrokes, and the robot and the seat gyrate seemingly at random for several seconds.

Once he's completed the programming — and obtained the necessary ethics approval for human testing — he plans to strap in study subjects to investigate how the neck handles what he calls "whiplash-like perturbations."

Dickey stresses that no one will actually be in danger of getting

whiplash; the robot is programmed to move the assembly at no more than three kilometres an hour.

"We will measure mechanical muscle responses and whether they have a role in preventing whiplash."

He figures that information will be useful to carmakers and manufacturers of car seats. He plans to collaborate with researchers at the University of Windsor under the AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence.

Conventional testing with sleds on rails involves more predictable motion and impacts. Dickey expects his rock-and-roll robot will allow him to study more unexpected and oblique impacts. "This type of system for this research is unique in the world." he says.

He plans to test grownups as well as youngsters, especially six-yearolds. That's the age of his youngest child, Katelyn. He also has two boys: Mark, 8, and Cameron, 11.

All three children were in the family van a few years ago when it was rear-ended on the highway. No-body was injured in the minor collision, but Dickey says the experience underlines the need to understand the biomechanics more fully.

"There's an underappreciation for the biology. That's what we're addressing."

In yet another application, he plans to use a robot to mimic conditions endured by operators of heavy equipment used in construction, forestry and mining. Knowing more about the effects of whole-body vibrations on operators may help as well in better seat design, preventing some of the lower back pain and injury common to these workers.

For that work, he plans to collaborate with a Laurentian University researcher involved in a project with the provincial Workplace Safety and Insurance Board.

For advertising information, contact Scott Anderson at 827-9169 or theandersondifference@rogers.com.



"I take my recreation very seriously," says Prof. Clayton Barrows. His recent purchase of a touring bike provides a hint about how he's planning to spend some of his upcoming leisure time. "I want to get back into distance riding, and I'm planning a trip down to New England," he



Clayton Barrows

Barrows has already begun to map out the route in his head, and he's aiming for a 1,000-kilometre trek in the summer of 2006. He expects it will take about two weeks to complete.

It's possible that he'll make the journey solo, but he's optimistic that he'll find some other cyclists who will jump at the opportunity to go. "I'm always looking for people to ride with," he says.

Barrows is also a true music lover. His collection is a mix of rock 'n' roll, rhythm and blues, jazz and, of course, folk, he says, motioning to the Garnet Rogers disc on his desk. He is also rediscovering classical music, something he jokingly attributes to a possible mid-life crisis. He loves music best when it's live. He has recently been to see the Toronto Symphony as well as Tafelmusik, a baroque orchestra and chamber choir.

AISHA CHIANDRET

Fourth-year student in environmental sciences

Look up - way up - and you might spot Aisha Chiandret scaling a rock face. Six years ago, after reading a book about someone who tackled Mount Everest, Chiandret fell in love with rock climbing. She volunteers with the University's rock climbing club as a wall monitor and trip leader, and also teaches an interest class in the sport offered through the



Aisha Chiandret

She has no plans, however, to climb Everest herself. "It's become very commercialized, and the risk is high,"

While on the ground, Chiandret competes in triathlons, something she took up after watching the Olympics and being introduced to the sport, which encompasses biking, running and swimming. "I get very inspired by people," she laughs.

She loves the sense of community and the friendliness she has experienced with other competitors. "I find the atmosphere a lot of fun, and people are very encour-

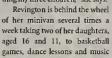
Chiandret is now in training for races this summer in Barrie and Orillia and at Guelph Lake. Last year, she participated in a triathlon relay with her parents, with each of them taking on one leg of the race. "We got smoked by this team called 'The Centurions,' and all the guys were over 65," she says.

She's training four or five hours a week to prepare for the summer and hopes to shave some time off her

KATE REVINGTON

Co-ordinator of undergraduate curriculum, U of G staff member since 1997

If Kate Revington weren't in her current position, she'd make a great chauffeur. "Most of my time is spent chasing around or shuttling my three children," she says.





Kate Revington

recitals. Her oldest daughter, who is now finding her own transportation, is finishing her first year at McGill.

With a book or two always on the go, Revington is a fan of the classics. Her favourite novel, To the Lighthouse by Virginia Wolfe, sits on her night table with its spine broken and its pages dog-eared and tattered after countless readings. She says her daughters were kind enough to buy her a fresh copy recently.

Revington is also a fan of The New Yorker and appreciates the style and wit that make it so popular. "I love everything from the profiles to the current events pieces to the art reviews," she says.

Although she hasn't made it to the Big Apple yet, she does spend time at the cottage each summer in Kincardine, where she enjoys walking on the beach, biking and visiting the local lighthouse.

Last fall, Revington took up Pilates, and she, along with a couple of co-workers, visits a trainer once a week, "I can truly feel the difference in my strength," she says.

'Dev Grants' Support Classroom Innovation

HE LEARNING TECHNOLOGY and Courseware Innovation Group in Teaching Support Services is answering a need when it comes to supporting innovation in the classroom.

This spring and summer, the group is making available about \$16,000 worth of development time to faculty and instructional staff who wish to develop an innovative course-related project.

The support comes in the form of dedicated hours of design and production time in the areas of video and audio production (shooting, digitizing, DVD creation); graphics, illustration and web production; and course and courseware development in WebCT, as well as support in

instructional design.

The deadline to submit proposals for the program is April 4. Selection criteria include the project's potential impact on learning, innovative and appropriate use of technology, potential for reuse and ability to be completed over the summer.

Full details and application forms are available at www.tss.uoguelph.ca. For more information, contact Aldo Caputo at Ext 52936 or acaputo@ uoguelph.ca.

The next issue of At Guelph is April 6. The deadline for copy is March 29.

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IS EARLY RETIREMENT SCHEME A SUITABLE APPROACH TO SAVINGS?

Over the past three months, we have been subjected to an unrelenting campaign to inform us of the sorry state of the University's finances. The most evident measures for cost-cutting we have seen are the voluntary workload reduction and early retirement schemes initiated last year and reintroduced at the end of February.

The early retirement scheme, particularly as it applies to faculty, raises a number of issues that lead me to wonder whether it provides a suitable approach to cost saving. These include:

1) The scheme pays 15 months' salary to all faculty who qualify. Since salaries continue to increase each year, the payout is greatest for people closest to retirement, where the potential savings are smallest. Am I missing something here?

2) The financial incentive for faculty really only kicks in if you're over 60. The faculty I know who took up the offer were between 61 and 63. If you allow for the payout of 1.25 times the annual salary, the potential savings to the University are small. We then need to add up the additional costs of financing the payouts, the costs of any sessional faculty hired to teach courses the retired faculty would have taught, and the administrative costs for chairs, deans and Human Resources personnel in selecting the applicants who qualified. Finally, if you factor in the likelihood that a number of the 37 faculty who took up the retirement offer in the first round would have retired before 65 (and I know several to whom this applies), then it is quite possible that the scheme results in a net loss to the University.

3) One result of the scheme is that it produces two classes of retirees. If you were 64 last year, you don't qualify for either package and you retire this year with your pension and nothing else. If you were 63 last year,

you qualified and received a package on the order of \$150,000. Nice if you can get it, but if you don't, it can leave you feeling a bit unhappy at the end of your

4) A final issue concerns a lack of consultation and transparency with the implementation of the scheme. My understanding is that neither the U of G Faculty Association nor the unions representing support staff were consulted about the introduction of the retirement package. The actual criteria and process by which faculty were chosen were never spelled out in detail, and they appear to have varied from one college to another. It thus makes it difficult to assess whether faculty who applied for the package and were turned down were indeed treated fairly.

I think most faculty and staff appreciate that these are not the best of times financially and are willing to listen to appeals to work together to help solve the crisis. But collaboration involves sharing information and some of the decision-making and generating an atmosphere of trust about the decisions being made

> Prof. Robin Davidson-Arnott Department of Geography

CROPPED COPS SAY THANKS

Bryce Kohlmeier, Robin Begin and I would like to thank all those who generously contributed to our "Crop a Cop" fundraiser for the tsunami disaster. We raised more than \$3,200.

Special thanks to president Alastair Summerlee, vice-president (finance and administration) Nancy Sullivan, associate vice-president (student affairs) Brenda Whiteside and the staff of Trendz Hair Design for their participation. Thanks also to At Guelph for its

Jim Armstrong, Campus Community Police

Canine Disease Re-emerges

Climate change, wild animals contribute to leptospirosis increase in dogs, says prof

BY KATE ROBERTS SPARK PROGRAM

ALOVING LICK TO THE FACE from the family dog may be a welcome greeting, but it could carry a number of pathogens that are dangerous to humans. One of these pathogens is a re-emerging canine bacterium, and it could have dire health consequences for dogs and their owners, says Prof. John Prescott, Pathobiology.

The bacterium, Leptospira, can cause the infectious and potentially deadly disease leptospirosis. Leptospira lives in its host's kidneys, and once infected, dogs show a variety of symptoms that can range from lethargy and depression to vomitting, kidney failure or even death.

The disease emerged widely in dogs across North America in the 1970s before being controlled by vaccination. But new cases of leptospirosis have been increasing in the past several years, says Prescott. He's been working with Beverley McEwen in the Animal Health Laboratory and clinicians in the Small-Animal Clinic, including Prof. Paul Woods, to follow the re-emergence of this disease.

This resurgence isn't quite the same as past outbreaks, says Prescott. This time, the infection is caused by different strains, and it's being transported in new ways.

He believes climate change and

the raccoon population are among the accomplices in spreading leptospirosis.

"In the 1970s, the type of leptospirosis seen was transmitted from dogs to other dogs, so it was easily controlled with vaccinations. But these new strains are being passed from raccoons to dogs. Vaccinating the entire raccoon population is impossible."

Raccoons are natural carriers of Leptospira — the bacterium is well-adapted to living in their kidneys — and dogs can be infected by exposure to raccoon urine. This, says Prescott, could explain why the disease is found mostly in urban areas, where there are high numbers of rac-

An increase in infection in urban wildlife carriers such as raccoons and skunks also appears to have occurred in the past several years.

Climate may also have played a role in the sudden increase in leptospirosis cases, says Prescott. Leptospira bacteria thrive in wet, warm conditions such as those seen in the fall, and average fall temperatures have risen since 1990.

"For example, the year 2000 had the greatest resurgence of canine leptospirosis, and it was by far the warmest fall — and the third wettest — in the last decade in Ontario," he says. "That creates an environment that allows Leptospira to survive."

Leptospirosis poses a threat to humans, too, because it can sometimes be transmitted from animals through their saliva, says Prescott. A dog may show few, if any, signs of infection, so humans could unwittingly be putting themselves at risk.

Leptospirosis is known as an occupational disease, meaning that people who are commonly in contact with animals, such as veterinarians, trappers and farmers, are more likely to be infected. But because it's usually spread through urine — and raccoons often urinate in streams, creeks or rivers — people can also be exposed to the bacteria through canoeing, swimming and fishing, he says.

Humans afflicted with leptospirosis can suffer a variety of symptoms similar to those of the flu. As in dogs, severe cases can cause kidney failure and other serious illness. Fortunately, the disease can easily be treated with antibiotics if caught early.

Because of the warming climate and the apparently rising spread of infection in urban wildlife, Prescott and his team are speaking to veterinarians about protecting dogs against the new *Leptospira* strains with new vaccines designed to control the problem.

This research is sponsored by the Ontario Veterinary College's Pet Trust Fund.



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of 6 Bookstore, to be held at the end of the semester. Anyone who submits the right answer by March 25 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56982. The following people correctly identified the March 9 photo as a courtyard at OVC: Jim Rahn, Wendy Arthur, Stephen Gazzola, Patricia Tersigni, Susan Atkinson, John VanManen, Laura Zadro, Rose MacQueen, Marlene Oliveri and Jennifer Beveridge.

PHOTO BY MARY DICKIESO

Contest Sparks Interest in Science

IRING UP local teens' interest in science was the goal of a novel design contest for high school students that ran in the School of Engineering during College Royal Weekend. About 40 students spent a day on campus participating in the second annual Guelph High School Design Competition.

Teams of Grade 11 and 12 students from 10 high schools in Guelph, Fergus and Orangeville had to devise and successfully demonstrate a fire response system intended to test their engineering design smarts and creativity.

"They don't need to be good in math or science or tech; they just need to be creative and innovative," says contest organizer Matt Durkee, a third-year student in environmental engineering. "It's about being able to see outside the box."

Students were required to use ordinary household items as well as string, scissors and glue to create an object that could sound an alarm and could be carried over an obstacle to extinguish a candle flame.

Last year's contest attracted 24

students from six Guelph schools. Durkee, who dreamed up the contest as a way to promote science to high school students, hopes to see it continue each year and ultimately involve nearby universities. He invited representatives from other campuses to observe this year's competi-

The event was sponsored by engineering student groups, the School of Engineering and a faculty member. The judging team consisted of a student, a staff member, a professor and a fire prevention officer.

CIHR Provides Critical Funding

Continued from page 1

Prof. Vladimir Ladizhansky, Physics, to help understand the process of demyelination in MS. Demyelination is the term used for a loss of myelin. When nerve endings lose this substance, they can't function properly, leading to patches of scarring or "sclerosis." Demyelination is the root cause of the symptoms that people with MS experience.

Prof. Rod Merrill received a five-year \$466,785 grant to determine the three-dimensional structure of bacterial toxins secreted by human pathogens. The most problematic bacterium, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, produces exotoxin A, one of the most potent protein toxins known, which functions by inactivating protein synthesis in infected human cells.

It's particularly troublesome in hospital environments because immune-compromised individuals can't combat the arsenal of virulence factors produced by the organism.

Merrill will use his CHIR grant to investigate the mechanism of the interaction between the bacterial toxins and the protein factors required for protein synthesis.

"Ultimately, we hope the research will lead to the design of compounds to inhibit the interaction and minimize the damage caused by

the toxins during bacterial infections in both animals and human patients," he says.

Already, Merrill has been working to develop a new treatment for combatting the effects of bacterial lung infections from *P. aeruginosa* in people with cystic fibrosis.

Prof. Ray Lu will receive more than \$290,000 over three years to continue his research on two human genes (Luman and Zhangfei) he has identified.

The biological functions of these genes have been linked to animal stress responses that are implicated in many diseases and cellular processes such as herpes virus. Both genes are also regulators of other gene activities.

"The CIHR funding is critical for us to carry on our research at an internationally competitive level," Lu says, adding that the grant will enable him to use experimental tools that would otherwise be unaffordable. "In addition to its impact on my research program, the funding will help create a better training environment for graduate students and post-doctoral researchers in the lab."

Launched in 2000, CIHR supports more than 8,500 researchers in universities, teaching hospitals and research institutes nationwide.

Veterinarian 'Hooked' on Africa

Continued from page 1

volving OVC and the Toronto Zoo.
Conditions vary, of course, between southern Ontario and southern Africa. Here, Smith has been called on to anesthetize deer for the Humane Society or even to help control unruly animals like horses posing a danger to handlers on campus.

Some of that experience — including figuring out how to prevent potent drugs from freezing in the field during a Canadian winter didn't translate readily to summer conditions in Zimbabwe, where temperatures of 30 C-plus required her to keep popping salt tablets and

downing water. (They generally worked early in the morning and late in the evening to avoid the worst heat.)

Smith also provided advice on the course curriculum. For that, she drew on years of experience in curriculum development at OVC.

She teaches a third-year course in avian medicine at Guelph and works in the avian and exotic clinic program through the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

She helps teach a short course in animal immobilization run by the Canadian Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians for Ontario park employees, dealing mostly with black bears.

Smith has been a faculty member at U of G for 15 years. Following her own studies at Guelph — she earned her DVM in 1980 and her D.V.Sc. in 1984 — sheworked for two years at a veterinary school in Zimbabwe in the late 1980s.

She's now considering opportunities for collaborative research projects, perhaps involving Guelph students in ecosystem health or wildlife diseases and pathology in exchange visits to Africa.

"Now that I'm hooked, I'd like to go back every year."

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, four-door sedan, automatic, power, cruise, air, sunroof, currently not running, needs engine work, 193,000 kilometres, Ext. 52240 or bpires@uoguelph.ca.

Graco Pack 'N' Play, Graco high chair, Evenflo SuperSaucer, all like new, 763-4358.

Bathroom vanity with sink and taps, white counter, two doors, honey oak trim, excellent condition; pantry cupboard, oak colour, three adjustable shelves; microwave cabinet, black with green marble front, two glass doors at top and two lower doors, Gayle, 780-1817.

Older-model stove, must go, Barb, Ext. 52043 or 821-7069.

White Kenmore apartment-size stackable washer and dryer, Donna, Ext. 56754 or 837-1596.

2000 Palomino 12-foot tent trailer, sleeps six to eight, includes indoor/outdoor stove, furnace, fridge, sink and awning, excellent condition, 823-8934.

1,550-square-foot sidesplit in south end on 55-foot lot, close to campus, schools and shopping, cathedral ceiling, bay windows, fireplace, finished basement with separate entrance, double driveway, fenced yard, view at http://ca.geocities. com/pkrell@rogers.com, 836-2733 or pkrell@uoguelph.ca.

Rosewood wall unit/entertainment centre, two rosewood end tables, mahogany rocking chair, pine bench, Ikea table and bedside table, kitchen table and four chairs, Sony stereo receiver, two Paradigm speakers, Hitachi VCR, Technics CD player and cassette deck, framed posters, photographs available, kmiyanis@uoguelph.ca.

FOR RENT

One- and two-bedroom accommodation for families and mature students for people affiliated with the University, visit www.housing.ueguelph.c click on "Housing for

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in house, close to shopping and bus stop, mature grad student or professional preferred, \$600 a month inclusive, Janet, 821-0177.

One room in two-bedroom apartment for summer sublet in downtown Toronto, Spadina and Dupont, near TTC, parking, female only, available April 1 to Aug. 31, \$450 a month inclusive, 416-929-9998 or 514-286-4887.

Furnished three-bedroom, 2,000-square-foot home in south end, gas,

central air, finished basement, two-car garage, deck, fenced yard, on bus route, close to schools, pårks and trails, available mid-May, Beren, berenrob@uoguelph.ca.

Newly renovated board-and-batten cottage in Bayfield, close to shopping, parks and restaurants, short walk to beach, loft bedroom, deck with barbecue, large yard, visit www.lakehuroncottagerentals.com/cottage1.php?record1D=506 to see photos, Lisa, 827-1144.

Furnished three-bedroom house, garage, central air, close to campus and shopping, on bus route, available mid-May to end of July, shorter rental time considered, \$1,380 a month plus utilities, Ext. 56683, 835-7805 or ermiguelph@yahoo.com.

Five bedroom two-storey brick house close to downtown, fenced yard, gas fireplace, on bus route, laundry, parking, non-smoker, no pets, available May 1, \$350 a month per room plus hydro, Jeff or Katija, 763-8046 or kblaine@uoguelph.ca.

Newly renovated heritage farmhouse on 120 acres, located two km south of 401 on Highway 6, 1½ baths, available April 1, \$1,800 a month plus utilities, Bob, 823-5945.

Furnished basement level of College Avenue condo, private bath, laundry/cooking area, mature grad student preferred, non-smoker, no pets, references required, \$485 a month inclusive, 837-4378.

Two-bedroom cottage at Sauble Beach, private deck, four-piece bath, dishwasher, washer/dryer, close to sandy beach, available July 1 to 10 and Aug. 21 to Sept. 4, \$800 a week, 905-659-2345 or beechtree@mail.com.

Restored stone cottage on 81 acres, minutes from Guelph and Hwy 401, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, references required, first and last months' rent required, 905-854-0152.

Two-bedroom cottage with view of Lake Huron, suitable for four, non-smokers, all amenities included, available for July, 763-1236 or Irbardwell@sympatico.ca.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, shortterm rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, available weekly or monthly, Nicole, 836-6745 or fmmoll@webtv.net.

WANTED

Portable outside basketball net, Barb, Ext. 52043 or 821-7069.

House to rent for professor and family for September 2005, non-smokers, no pets, or will swap for spacious

two-bedroom flat in central London, England, 44-207-6401025, arjande@ yahoo.co.uk or praiuk@yahoo.co. uk.

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The Grad Lounge Invites you to its Open House Celebration



Date: April 5th 2005 Time: 3:00-5:00

Location: 5th FI (North Elevators)

University Centre.

Free Cake

The event is open to all patrons in celebration of the refurbishment of the Lounge

Contact Person: Bonnie Runge ext 58117



EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Naturalist Chris Earley leads the workshop "Warblers: Butterflies of the Bird World" April 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A 6:30 a.m. hike through the Arboretum to look for warblers is slated for May 14. Cost is \$70. Registration and payment are required by April 1.

Willow artist Barbara Guy Long will lead a workshop on using willow wattle weave to create a rustic cedar trellis April 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$85. The deadline for registration and payment is April 11.

The Theatre in the Trees production of William F. Brown's A Single Thing in Common runs Saturdays until April 30. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$53. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's 25th-anniversary exhibition, "Body Unbound: Works From the Collection," opens with a reception March 30 at 5 p.m. On April 5 at noon, exhibition co-ordinator Dawn Owen will give a brown bag lunch talk on the show.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's noon-hour concert series continues March 24 with the Early Music Ensemble conducted by Larry Beckwith. On March 31 and April 7, student soloists from Guelph's applied music program will perform. The concerts are held in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

Prof. Howard Spring leads the U of G Jazz Ensemble March 31 at 8:30 p.m. in the University Club, UC Level 5. Admission is \$2 at the door.

The U of G Choir conducted by Marta McCarthy performs Carnina Burana by Carl Orff April 1 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Soloists are soprano Theresa Thibodeau, tenor 5teven Paul Spears and baritone John Medina. 5pecial guests are duo pianists James Anagmosan and Leslie Kinton and the Woodshed Percussion Ensemble. Tickets are \$22 general, \$14 for students and seniors. To order, call 763-3000.

The University Community Orchestra conducted by Henry Janzen presents Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition April 4 at 8 p.m. at War Memorial Hall. The U of G Concert Winds led by John Goddard will also perform. Admission is \$10.

The U of G Contemporary Music Ensemble conducted by Prof. Ellen Waterman performs April 8 at 8 p.m. at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. The concert will feature saxophonist/composer Jean Derome,

Siren (conducted by Marta McCarthy) and the Ensemble for Musical Improvisation (directed by Jesse Stewart). Admission is \$8 general, \$5 for students and seniors.

FILM

The McLaughlin Library and the Central Student Association's free documentary film series continues March 23 with Dreamland, March 30 with End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream and April 6 with State of Denial (AIDS crisis in Africa). The films run at 7:15 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

LECTURES

OAC's public lecture series continues March 23 with Joachim Voss, director-general of the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture, discussing "Attacking Poverty Through Rural Innovation and Environmental Reconstruction" at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1714.

Mary Tidlund of the Tidlund Foundation, an organization that supports development work throughout the world, will discuss "Personal to Global Development" March 29 at 1:30 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 143.

NOTICES

The Mac-FACS Alumni Association presents a Spa Day for the Soul April 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Atrium Restaurant in Macdonald Stewart Hall. Cost is \$50. For tickets, call Marilyn Bracken at Ext. 56753 or send e-mail to CSAHS@uoguelph. ca.

McMaster University and the State University of Bangladesh are sponsoring an International Conference on Women, Men and Youth Feb. 19 to 22, 2006, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. For details, call 905-525-9140, Ext. 27533; fax to 905-521-8834; or send e-mail to ic2006@mcmaster.ca.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation seeks nominations for its Excellence in Education Award for Promotion of Sustainable Practices. The award recognizes educators in Ontario who have integrated sustainable concepts in housing and community development into their academic curriculum. Nomination deadline is April 30. For nomination forms and award criteria, visit www.cmbc.ca/ontario.

The Canadian Foreign Policy journal is sponsoring a conference on Canada's international policies, to be held at the Norman Paterson 5chool of International Affairs in Ottawa Nov. 10 and 11. Organizers are calling for papers by new scholars. Abstracts (up to 250 words) are due June 1 and should be e-mailed to elizabeth james@carleton.ca or

faxed to 613-520-2889. For more information, visit www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=143701.

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada has announced a new competition under the International Academic Mobility initiative for the Canada-European Union Program for Co-operation in Higher Education and Vocational Training. The call for proposals is posted on the web at www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/hip/lld/lssd/iam/announcements shtml.

SEMINARS

The Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences presents Prof. John Dwyer, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, considering "Adolescents' Barriers to Participation in Physical Activity" March 28 at 10:30 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

"Are Invasive Species the Drivers or Passengers of Change in Degraded Ecosystems?" is the focus of Andrew MacDougall of the University of Regina in the Department of Integrative Biology seminar March 28 at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

Next up in the Department of Physics seminar series March 29 is Arthur McDonald of Queen's University discussing "Studying the University From Two Kilometres Underground: SNO and the New SNOLAB." On April 5, Federico Rosei of the University of Quebec outlines "Strategies for Controlled Assembly at the Nanoscale." The seminars begin at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 101.

The Cognitive Science Group's seminar series continues March 30 with Prof. Don Dedrick, Philosophy, presenting "Controversies in Cognitive Science: A ZenCon Preview." On April 6, Ben Goddard discusses drug addiction. The talks begin at 3:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 232.

"SNARE-Mediated Membrane Trafficking Is Required for Spreading in CHO Cells" is the topic of Michael Skalski in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series April 1. On April 8, Meaghan Fowler considers "Pathogenicity of Eschericlia cell O157:H7." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

The Department of Pathobiology seminar series continues April 1 with Prof. Patrick Boerlin exploring "Molecular Epidemiology of Antimicrobial Resistance in E. coli From Swine in Ontario" and April 8 with Jim Fairles of U of G's Animal Health Lab presenting "A Canadian Veterinarian's Experiences and Insight Into the Chinese Animal Health System." The seminars begin at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

THEATRE

Those Crazy Germans Productions, in affiliation with U of G's German studies program, presents scenes from plays by Friedrich Schiller, Friedrich Dürrenmatt, Bertolt Brecht and Max Frisch March 23 and 24 at 7 p.m. in Lower Massey Hall. Admission is \$5 general, \$4 for students and seniors.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Jennifer Ellis, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, is March 29 at 9 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "Examination of Maintenance Energy Expenditures, Dry Matter Intake and Body Weight Predications Within a Dynamic Model of Energy Balance in the Dairy Cow." The adviser is Prof. John Cant.

The final examination of PhD candidate Xiaomin Bin, Department of Chemistry, is April 29 at 9:30 a.m. in MacNaughton 101. The title of the thesis is "Electrochemical and Polarization Modulation Fourier Transform Infrared Reflection Absorption Spectroscopic (PM-1RRAS) Studies of Phospholipid Bilayers on an Au(111) Electrode Surface." The adviser is Prof. Jacek Lipkowski.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services presents a workshop on "Producing Quality Video for Teaching and Instruction" March 31. Register through the Human Resources website at www. uoguelph.ca/hr/training/coursereg. htm.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Ontario government's recent legislation implementing a "greenbelt" and its major urban growth proposals in "Places to Grow" will be the focus of a community forum to be held April 7 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre.

The Perimeter Institute hosts a public lecture by one of the world's pre-eminent string theorists, Ed Witten of the Institute for Advanced Study, April 6 at 7 p.m. at Waterloo Collegiate Institute, 300 Hazel St., Waterloo. His topic is "The Quest for Supersymmetry." Attendance is free, but tickets are required. They're available at www.perimeterinstitute.ca or by calling 519-883-4480.

The Guelph Chamber Choir marks its 25th anniversary by joining voices with the Menno 5ingers April 2 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Conducted by Gerald Neufeld, the concert will feature Ralph Vaughan Williams' Sea 5ymphony, set to the poetry of Walt Whitman, and Anton Bruckner's Te Deum. For ticket information, call 763-3000.

The Evergreen Seniors Centre is hosting a Retire in Style Trade Show April 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra presents "Symphonic Majesty," featuring award-winning Canadian violinist Susanne Hou, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Hou will perform Beethoven's Violin Concerto. The program will also feature works by Haydn, Boeildieu and Glenn Buhr. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The Multiple Sclerosis Society holds its annual Super Cities Walk April 17. To participate or donate, call 821-5554.

Guelph Little Theatre's next production is the comedy Stepping Out by Richard Harris. It opens March 31 and continues weekends until April 16. For ticket information, call 821-0270.

The College Women's Club will hold its annual spring coffee party April 4 at 10 a.m. at the Guelph Country Club, 133 Woodlawn Rd. E. Guest speaker is Harvey Medland, author of *Tombstone Tales*. All women associated with U of G are welcome. For tickets, call 822-3943.

The Guelph Jazz Festival is hosting a series of fundraising concerts at The Bookshelf ebar. Next up is the Montreal jazz band Trio Derome Guilbeault Tanguay April 5 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door or in advance at The Bookshelf and Music in Orbit.

The Guelph Guild of Storytellers and Guelph Museums present By Word of Mouth, an afternoon and evening of storytelling, April 6 at Guelph Civic Museum. The afternoon session begins at 1:30 p.m. and is designed for children aged seven to 13. A program for adults begins at 7:30 p.m. For ticket information, call 836-1221.

Nutrition expert and author David Wolfe, whose books include The Sunfood Diet, will speak April 5 at 7 p.m. in MacNaughton 105. The evening will include samplings of raw food from Garden of Vegan. For tickets, call 827-0281 or send e-mail to gardenofvegan@sympatico.ca.

Child Haven International, an organization that operates homes for women and children overseas, hosts a fundraiser April 2 at 5:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Catholic Centre, 15 Michael 5t., Kitchener. For ticket information, call Shahnaz Negi at Fxt. 56540.

A support program for people who are separated or divorced will run for 11 weeks beginning April 21 at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 255 Woolwich 5t. For information, call 824-8230.

at GUELPH

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INSIDE: GUELPH READS! • HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR COFFEE? • UNIVERSITY HONOURS TOP ATHLETES



Jocelyn Lai puts 12 years of skating practice to good use in her role as Tiffany in the new Disney film *Ice Princess*. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

A Star on Ice

Student juggles academics and acting

BY REBECCA KENDALL

ARCH 18 WAS A SPECIAL DAY for 20-year-old U of G student Jocelyn Lai, but if the call placed to her parents' home in Richmond Hill was any indication, she was taking it all in stride. Asked if she knew why this reporter was calling her, she said she had no idea and was taken off guard when queried about her role in the Disney film *Ice Princess*, opening that day.

Geared to a young audience, Ice Princess is about a girl named Casey who is torn between fast-tracking to Harvard and pursuing her dream of becoming a champion skater.

"It was a fun movie to do," says Lai, who plays the role of the glamorous and at times not-so-nice Tiffany, one of three elite skaters on the U.S. National circuit who help Casey develop her skills.

"She has a close relationship with her father, who is always there supporting her," Lai says of her character. "But he puts a lot of pressure on her and is always wanting her to do better. She's at a point where she is no longer skating for herself but is skating to please her father." She says the movie, filmed in Toronto, accurately depicts many of the issues amateur skaters must grapple with on their way to becoming professional. Lai started skating at age five but chose to abandon the sport three years ago because she realized she didn't have the unwavering discipline and drive necessary to make it to the top.

She says sbe met some highly accomplished skaters during the filming of the movie, including those cast as body doubles and world champion Michelle Kwan, and left reassured that she had made the right choice.

"I have so much respect and admiration for these girls. They have their goals and they're so determined, and nothing is going to get in their way."

Lai, a third-year bio-medical science student, has been juggling acting and academics since she signed with Toronto's Margo Lane Talent at age 13. Since then, she's been involved in a few Canadian productions, including the Space Channel's Space Odyssey, YTV's System Crash

Continued on page 10

Landscape Architects Earn National Kudos for Electronic Textbook

CD-ROM was developed for distance education course in landscape design

BY ANDREW VOWLES

HEY'VE YET TO USE IT in the classroom, but a new electronic textbook scheduled for introduction in the fall has already won a national citation award for a U of G landscape architect and her former graduate student.

Prof. Nancy Pollock-Ellwand and Susan Preston, now working on a post-doc at McMaster University, will receive the award this spring from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) for their CD-ROM for a first-year landscape design course at Guelph.

Called Landscape Legacies: Created Space From the Prehistoric to the Present, the electronic textbook uses a compelling, colourful mix of text, photographs and graphics to trace the history of landscape design up to the 18th-century Picturesque Movement. Contained on a single disc, the e-book consists of the equivalent of more than 500 pages, including upwards of 1,000 photos.

Pollock-Ellwand, an expert in cultural and heritage landscapes, says the CSLA citation is "recognition that landscape history is extremely important for landscape architects and recognition of innovations in the way we deliver a course."

The CD-ROM will be included in a course package this fall for "The History of Cultural Form," an introductory course Pollock-Ellwand has taught for more than 10 years to about 50 students each semester. It became a distance education course offered through the Office of Open Learning (OOL) in 2001.

"This is one of those projects that grew," says Pollock-Ellwand, explaining that she had initially envisioned a disc of visual images to supplement the course manual. "It began as a course resource and morphed into an e-book."

She notes that the partnership between OOL and the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development in designing the distance course and developing materials for it did much to influence the nature of the final product.

Like conventional textbooks used in other historical survey courses, the e-textbook covers the history of landscape design through successive periods. But the new publication's interactive nature will allow instructor and students to jump among sections and explore conventional material in different ways, says Pollock-Ellwand.

Students using Landscape Legacies will click through historical periods and visit different parts of the world by following design themes, principles or typologies (kinds of spaces). The disc also contains a glossary, bibliography, footnotes, index, timelines and a search engine.

Click on a photo of an English country estate, for instance, and you can watch the expansive lawns morph into a modern golf course. Far from merely distinguishing between old and new designs, she says, the point of similar morphing images that bookend each chapter is to show how certain principles and forms persist over centuries or even longer.

That's where the "landscape legacies" moniker came from, a concept that Pollock-Ellwand says finds expression on the U of G campus in the near-iconic status that is accorded Johnston Green more than a century after its creation.

"It's the idea that there are echoes. Nothing is really created anew."

Continued on page 10



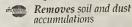
Prof. Nancy Pollock-Ellwand, right, and her former graduate student Susan Preston have received a national citation award from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects for their CD-ROM for a first-year landscape design course.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALEE

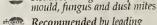
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Learning Free of Violence, Fear

WUSC brings students from war-torn countries to Canada to pursue higher education

BY LORI BONA HUNT

PROF. ROBERT ST-AMANT admits that making the world a better place isn't easy, especially when you can help only one person at a time. But to that one person, what he and others at Collège d'Alfred and throughout the U of G community are doing makes a world of difference.

"We're giving someone a future essentially," says St-Amant, who teaches international development and is head of Alfred's chapter of World University Service of Canada (WUSC), one of the country's leading development agencies. WUSC teams with students, faculty and institutions to internationalize Canada's universities and increase knowledge of global issues.

Each year for the past five years, the Alfred chapter has brought a student from a war-torn country to study at the French-speaking college through WUSC's student refugee program. The WUSC chapter on the main U of G campus has been doing the same thing for the past two decades (see related story on page 7).

The only one of its kind in Canada, WUSC's student refugee program was launched in 1978, based on the belief that knowledge is the key to an equitable society and that all people should have the opportunity to acquire education and skills.

Students come from countries such as Afghanistan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Malawi, Zaire, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Rwanda in hopes of pursuing higher education in an environment free of violence or fear.

"These students are brought to Canada and given the same resources and the same opportunities as any other student," says Dudley Gibbs, special events co-ordinator for the College of Arts, who has volunteered with Guelph's WUSC chapter since 1986.

It really echoes the notion that we are one world, that we are all on this Earth together. The program opens both doors and minds, benefiting not only the students coming here but the institutions as well by helping to provide a world view."

Since the program's inception, more than 800 refugee students have come to Canada via the WUSC program, at the rate of 4S to 50 a year.

St-Amant says people often ask: "You're helping maybe S0 students a year and there are more than 20 million refugees in the world - how can this possibly make a difference?

His response? "For one thing, it helps convey the plight of refugees to the eyes of the public, which is very important. But it also brings a richness of the human experience to our campuses that cannot be matched. We teach about international and human development issues, and we have people right here who can talk about such things based on firsthand experience.

Local WUSC chapters handle all the details involved in sponsoring students and cover their first year of living and university expenses. At both Alfred and the main U of G campus, some financial support is provided by student governments, and the chapters also do fundraising.

"The most eye-opening part for me was the mounds of paperwork involved in bringing a person to Canada," says Chris Jess, a thirdyear English student who assists in co-ordinating the student refugee program for the Guelph WUSC chapter. "It can also be difficult for students to adjust to a new culture and school all at once," he says.

Overall, most of the students feel fortunate to be here. Many of them are from countries that have been affected by war, so by the time they arrive, they've already gone through so much, endured so many battles. It's amazing to learn about the challenges they've faced. We tend to forget how incredibly fortunate we are as a country sometimes.'

After the first year, the students are responsible for supporting themselves, including paying their own tuition. Once they're here, they're considered "WUSC alumni," and most keep in contact with their local

'We've had students go on to graduate school or stay in Canada and work," says Gibbs. "They'll drop by my office every now and then, or I'll get e-mails saying: 'This is what I'm doing now.'

The student refugee program is just one of many international initiatives and projects sponsored by WUSC, which was established in 1939 in response to the need to encourage international understanding in a war-torn world.

In addition to supporting local WUSC chapters, the agency offers students and faculty numerous unique training and educational opportunities overseas. U of G has been involved in such programs since the 1960s. This includes an annual international seminar for which 20 to 30 Canadian students and two faculty members are selected to participate in an intensive six-week educational tour of a developing country. The tours began in 1948.

Gibbs accompanied such a group to his home country of Zimbabwe in 1987. He went as a volunteer for WUSC and even took along his eight-month-old son. "I was born there, grew up there, but hadn't been back to the country for nine years

because of the politics," he says. This year, U of G student Delainey Grieg is one of 20 students nationwide selected for the seminar. The second-year international development major will tour Burkina Faso, will be paired with a Burkinabe student and will take part in a group research project on HIV/AIDS, agriculture and gender equality.

WUSC is governed by a board of directors, whose members include president Alastair Summerlee, who is vice-chair, and St-Amant, who represents Ontario. Last year's chair was Connie Rooke, U of G's former associate vice-president (academic).

Committee to Review AVP (Student Affairs)

ROVOST and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso has established a special committee to review Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs), who completes five years in her role this month. Although the position is for a continuous term, the incumbent is reviewed every five

Chaired by Mancuso, the committee consists of Brett Allan, president of Interhall Council; Robin

Begin, interim director of U of G Police and Fire Services; Pat Case, director of the Human Rights and Equity Office; Bruno Mancini, director of the Counselling and Student Development Centre; Brian Pettigrew, director of strategic enrolment management and registrar; Jenn Watt, academic commissioner for the Central Student Association; and Jess Wells, president of the Graduate Students' Association.

The review committee invites in-

put and feedback from the U of G community on Whiteside's role as AVP (student affairs), particularly in the areas of leadership, administration and management, relationship building, communications and student-centred approach.

Comments should be submitted in writing or via e-mail by April 1S and can be sent electronically to Mancuso at provost@uoguelph.ca or to any member of the review committee.

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SECTION OF SIDEWALK ON **GORDON STREET CLOSED**

A section of sidewalk along the east side of Gordon Street is closed for the next five weeks to allow for the installation of underground utilities for Phase 2 of the science complex. The section of sidewalk runs between Phase 1 of the complex to the Gordon Street entrance of the Axelrod Building. The driveway leading to the complex remains operational, as does the city bus stop in front of Axelrod. Pedestrians are being asked to use alternative routes, including Stadium Walk to the north and the sidewalk south of Axelrod. They're also being asked to cross Gordon Street at designated crosswalks only.

ANNUAL CAMPUS THEATRE **PROJECT FOCUSES ON YOUTH**

The Guelph Project, an annual theatrical venture that brings together members of the U of G community to address issues of relevance to the University and the greater Guelph community, runs April 7 to 9 in Lower Massey Hall. Presented by the Wellness Centre, the Drama Students Federation, and Citizenship and Leadership Education, this year's production is titled Generation Youth and focuses on some of the struggles that young people face today. It runs at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$S and can be purchased at the door or in advance at the Wellness Centre in the Powell Building or the Info Desk on Level I of the University Centre.

STUDENT ENGINEERS DISPLAY **FOURTH-YEAR DESIGNS**

The annual School of Engineering design exhibition runs April 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the University Centre courtyard and in the fover outside Thornbrough 1200. Projects by more than 30 teams of fourth-year engineering students will be presented in poster format.

CROP SCIENCE FIRM FUNDS GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Bayer Crop Science, a leading global crop science business, has donated \$10,000 to fund two one-time graduate scholarships in the departments of Environmental Biology and Plant Agriculture in 200S. The donation will be matched 2:1 by the province under the recently established Ontario Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology, creating two scholarships of \$15,000 each.

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNICATION PRESENTED

Research Facts, a publication produced by the Office of Research, received a bronze award in the "promotional publications category" from the Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences, An ad that appeared in the Research magazine received a bronze award in the category "best print advertisement." A silver award went to an ad that appeared in AFMNet's Advance magazine, which is produced by the Office of Research's SPARK pro-

Guelph Reads!

Student-organized debate aims to get people thinking about how books can change lives

BY REBECCA KENDALL

CEVEN U OF G STUDENTS working under the guidance of Prof. Ajay Heble, English and Theatre Studies, have organized Guelph Reads!, a concept based on the CBC's Canada Reads!, to engage the community in thoughtprovoking and insightful discussion about books that have changed the way people view others and the world around them.

"He asked us to think of ways that we could use literature in the community to create social change," says organizer Ben Walsh, who is a member of Heble's course on "Literature and Social Change," which is part of U of G's first-year learning seminar program, designed to challenge the minds of new students.

"We wanted to address the way we understand the community we're living in and the way we communicate with the people we live with," says Walsh. "We want this project to produce a reminder that we can never give up on each other and that we have to work hard to not let that happen."

The group selected four prominent community leaders and asked them to choose a book that has created great or subtle change in the past or has the potential to invoke future social progress. The four were asked to select books that would get people thinking about their community and their world in new ways or would get them to refine old ways of thinking. Each of the four will argue why their selection should be read by everyone in Guelph at a debate to be held April 1S at 7 p.m. at Chalmers United Church.

"Everyone has a book that has changed their life or a book that they really think can change how people relate to one another," says Walsh, "What we're doing is trying to find a book that will bring that to the whole community."

The panellists include U of G English professor Dionne Brand, a Governor General's Award-winning author. She will debate the merits of The Journey of Ibn Fattouma by Naguib Mahfouz, the story of a young man's journey in search of wisdom.

Karen Farbridge, a U of G political science instructor and former Guelph mayor, will argue on behalf of her pick, The Great Work: Our Way Into the Future by Thomas Berry, which offers insights into balancing humanity and the environment in terms of ethics, politics, economics and education.

Daniel Quinn's Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit, a story

championed by Guelph litigation lawyer, broadcaster and journalist T.

Marva Wisdom, national policy chair for the Liberal Party of Canada and 2002 winner of the Voluntary Community Humanitarian Service Award, has chosen The Truth About Stories by Guelph English professor Thomas King. This book illustrates the power of native storytelling in shaping society and understanding

like to encourage student projects that link academic pursuits with the community," says Farbridge. think the event provides an opportunity for the community to benefit from the enthusiasm, creativity and thoughtfulness of the students."

Heble will host the event, and everyone attending will have a chance to vote at the end of the debates. There will also be online voting and voting by e-mail.

The debates will be broadcast in three parts on CFRU 93.3 FM starting April 17. The winning book will be approunced May 10 on CERU, and the student organizers hope people will feel compelled to read it.

For more information, visit www. guelphreads.org or send e-mail to guelphreads@hotmail.com.

about the search for truth, will be

mathematical physics from the University of New Mexico. He also did two years of post-doctoral work at the Institute of Physics in Ireland and Germany. In 1979, he joined the faculty of U of G, where he remained until his retirement in 2004. In recognition of his contributions to science. Guelph honoured him last year with the first Peter Yodzis Colloquium, which brought together world-renowned "I agreed to participate because I scientists. He is survived by his wife. Susan, and two sons, Hans and

PETER FERGUS

Affairs and Development.

Michael. Memorial donations can

be made to the Peter Yodzis Collo-

quium Series through Alumni

IN MEMORIAM

PETER VODZIS

Peter Yodzis, a retired professor of

theoretical ecology in the Depart-

ment of Integrative Biology, died

March 28. He held an undergradu-

ate degree in theoretical physics

from Duke University and a PhD in

Peter Fergus, a retired staff member in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, died March 28 at the age of 7S. He was employed at the University from 1961 to 1989. Born in Scotland, he served in the British Royal Navy and in the Korean War. He is survived by his wife of SS years, Patricia: four children, Marilyn, Peter Jr., Alan and Jean; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

ALBERT A. THORNBROUGH

Former Massey-Ferguson Limited president and CEO Albert A. Thornbrough, for whom U of G's School of Engineering building is named, died Sept. 8, 2004, at the age of 92. Thornbrough's connection with U of G began in 1964 when the Kansas-born agricultural economist became an inaugural member of the University's Board of Governors. For a number of years, he served as the board's vice-chair. He also co-chaired the University's development fund in the early 1970s and served as chair of the finance committee. In June 1973, the University formally recognized his contributions with the dedication of the new engineering building in his name. In 2002, he donated many papers related to his tenure as CEO of Massey-Ferguson to the U of G Library's Massey-Harris-Ferguson records. He is survived by three children, six grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Electrical Shutdown Set for May 7

A S PART of U of G's preventive maintenance program, an electrical shutdown is planned for campus Saturday, May 7, to enable a thorough inspection of two of the University's three main electrical feeders, says Paul Specht, director of Maintenance and Operations in Physical Resources.

'It's important to undertake this work to ensure the integrity of the electrical distribution system on campus," says Specht. "We are now instituting annual preventive maintenance shutdowns so we can identify deterioration and plan for the replacement of components, if required."

He adds that, although the shutdown will be an inconvenience, May 7 was selected because it falls on a weekend between semesters when activity levels are low and before hot, humid weather has begun.

The shutdown will begin at 8 a.m. The science complex, Massey Hall, the Reynolds Building, the J.D. MacLachlan Building and the essential power system will not be affected, says Specht.

Affected buildings will be key-locked, and users are being asked not to enter the buildings unless absolutely necessary.

Deans and directors across campus have been advised of the shutdowns and how long each building in their area will be affected. A limited number of generators will be made available to ensure provision of essential services, he says.

During the shutdown, half of the affected areas will be without electricity for three hours, and the other half will be down for eight hours. A list of all the affected buildings is available in departmental offices. Of particular note, the McLaughlin Library will be closed from 8 to 11 a.m., and the University Centre and all athletic facilities will be unavailable from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Specht also notes that the annual steam shutdown will take place June 28 as part of the regular preventive maintenance program. It will last for eight hours beginning at 6 a.m. Physical Resources will provide more details as they become available.

For more information, contact Specht at Ext. S3306 or paulsp@ pr.uoguelph.ca.

Contributions to Student Life Recognized

HIS YEAR'S WINNERS of the R.P. Gilmor Student Life Award for contributions that enhance the quality of student life on campus are fourth-year students Anita Abraham and Ali Jahangirvand. They were honoured at a reception March 31.

Abraham, who was this year's co-ordinator of the Meal Exchange program, was an orientation volunteer and was involved in Student Volunteer Connections, Project Serve and residence govern- ment. She was also the force behind the One World Multicultural Show and did volunteer work locally.

Jahangirvand was a senior peer helper with the Centre for Students With Disabilities and intored students in the physical and biological sciences. He was a U of G Ambassador and a member of the First Response Team and participated in Project Serve. He also volunteered his time at orientation, the Community Barbecue and the Food Bank.

Also honoured March 31 were the recipients of the André Auger Citizenship Award (Annie Benko), the Brian D. Sullivan Student Leadership Award (Stuart Solomon), the Liz Honegger Student Volunteer

Award (Jenn Fortune), the Roberta Mason Rookie Involvement Award (Kate Westcott) and the U of G Alumni Association Student Volunteer Award (Xiao Wang).

In addition, the recipients of this year's Gordon Nixon Leadership Awards were announced: Engineers Without Borders, the U of G Model United Nations Club, the Guelph Project, Guelph Ladies Arts and Music, the Safewalk taxi budget, the Safe Space Project, a women-of-colour workshop series and vision goggles for the Wellness Centre's Awareness Balance Choice Program.

The following appointments have recently been announced at U of G: · Marc Habash, assistant professor,

- Department of Environmental · Getu Hailu, assistant professor,
- Department of Agricultural Economics and Business
- · Nina Jones, assistant professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Christopher Mast, special constable, Police Division, U of G Police and Fire Services
- · Cindy Stoate, anesthesia technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Ontario Veterinary College.



Prof. Bob Dony is developing a computer chip that could allow hearing aids to "intelligently" filter out unwanted noise. PHOTO BYVINCE FILBY

A Smart Little Bug in Your Ear

Chip could make life easier for the hearing-impaired

BY MEGHAN BAKER SPARK PROGRAM

earing loss already affects some three million Canadians and is the fastest-growing chronic disability in the country, according to the Hearing Foundation of Canada. With the demand for hearing aids expected to increase in the coming years, Profs. Shawki Areibi and Bob Dony, Engineering, are developing a compact intelligent computer chip that, if successful, could change modern hearing aids and make life easier for the hearing-impaired.

Although most hearing aids amplify sounds and are controlled with a volume switch, this chip can adapt to its surroundings as required, depending on the volume and frequency of noises. Dony and Areibi are combining computer hardware and software to develop this chip, which would help hearing-aid users filter out unwanted noise as they move through different environments, helping them get the clearest sounds possible.

"We want to program this chip to separate what users want to hear from what they don't want to hear, without us having to tell the chip what to do every time the environment and its background noise change," says Dony.

Traditional hearing aids depend on analog technology that simply boosts the volume of sound frequencies users don't hear well, allowing them to pick up desired sounds more easily. But these devices aren't selective to background noise. That makes it difficult for users in noisy environments, where "white noise" can overwhelm the sounds and voices they want to hear. In many cases, it's easier to simply turn off a hearing aid.

Dony's chip will be able to distinguish white noise from other sounds. The intelligent chip can select specific frequencies and reduce or raise their volume accordingly,

boosting desired sounds such as talking or music while filtering out the background.

For Dony and his colleagues, the combination of improved hardware and the intelligent software could lead to future research prospects in other fields. He's currently collaborating with Prof. Peter Physick-Sheard, Population Medicine, on a visualization program for sounds made by the body, which can be used to interpret health problems.

"I'm working with Peter on visualizing body sounds such as heartbeat and breathing for use in teaching veterinary students to hear and interpret such sounds," says Dony.

He and Areibi hope their research results will attract interest from digital technology-based firms, which can design and produce intelligent chips on a larger scale. This research is sponsored by Science and Engineering Research Canada and AMI Semiconductor Canada.

Don't Get 'Phished' In

Be wary of e-mails requesting personal information, says CCS security manager

BY REBECCA KENDALL

the rise, and you don't want to find yourself on the hook, says Doug Blain, manager of information technology security for Computing and Communications Services. Phishing attacks use e-mail or misleading websites to solicit personal, often financial information, and have a five-per-cent success rate.

Scammers may present themselves as a financial institution, credit card company, government organization or employer and encourage their targets to divulge or "confirm" a variety of secure information, including passwords, personal identification numbers and social insurance numbers.

They try to convince their target that there's a problem with an account and urgently insist that the victim relinquish pertinent information, which is later used to commit a variety of offences, including identity fraud and infiltration of an organization's network.

"There's an anonymous nature

to the e-mail that should raise suspicion," says Blain. "If you're getting legitimate mail from an institution, it will have your name and your account number prominently displayed."

He says most legitimate sites have made public statements indicating they will never ask for confidential information through e-mail and that an e-mail requesting this should never be responded to. He also suggests people roll the mouse over the link without clicking on it because if it's fraudulent, the URL will be inconsistent with what's displayed on the page as the link. Clicking on it will lead to a scam website.

"If you disclose confidential information, your hard-earned dollars are going to crime families, and that's not what you want," says Blain. "It's only going to get worse because it's a very successful form of fraud, so be wary of any request for account numbers and passwords."

Blain has the following advice for Internet subscribers:

 Always be suspicious of unsobcited phone calls, e-mails or visits from those seeking personal information about an individual or organization. Don't disclose information until you've determined that the party making the request is legitimate and has the authority to ask for such information.

 If you receive an e-mail request for personal information, don't respond and don't click on any link provided in the message.

 Pay attention to the URL of a website because fraudulent websites can have strong similarities to a familiar legitimate site but have a slight spelling variation or a different domain name (.org instead of .com. for example.)

Blain also advises Internet users to install and maintain anti-virus software, a firewall and filters to reduce traffic and the potential for fraud.

If you have provided confidential information online and believe you may be a victim of phishing, contact the companies where you have accounts and your local police. For more information about phishing, visit www.microsoft.com/athome/security/email/phishing, mspx.

This Test Passes the Test

New E. coli detection method provides better results, fewer false positives

BY COURTNEY DENARD SPARK PROGRAM

NEW DETECTION METHOD for E. coli-tainted foods has outstripped several of its competitors in effectiveness, says Joseph Odumeru of Laboratory Services.

Odumeru has completed a year-long study evaluating a new method that rapidly tests for the presence of *E. coli* 0157:H7, the most common *E. coli* strain related to food-borne illness in North America. He discovered that the technique detected *E. coli* 0157:H7 100 per cent of the time in foods, without false

negative results. Not only that, the test differentiated between non-toxic and toxic *E. coli* 94 per cent of the time, generating fewer false positives and enabling food-safety personnel to work more quickly in recalling contaminated products.

"The results were significant," says Odumeru. "That means fewer false positives and faster recall times for contaminated food."

He compared the effectiveness of this new bacterial detection kit, called Immunocard STAT! 0157:H7, with three other commercially available kits that food-safety technicians use to detect low levels of E. coli 0157:H7 in food samples. In particular, he looked at how well each kit performed when probing food products that have been implicated in past E. coli 0157:H7 outbreaks, such as ground beef, unpasteurized apple cider, alfalfa sprouts and cheese.

Whenever food samples being tested contained the deadly bacterium, Immunocard STATI 0157:H7 found it 100 per cent of the time. The kit also generated fewer false positive test results than the other kits did.

Odumeru says false positives are a common error in many detection kits and force scientists to retest food samples numerous times to ensure food safety. That's expensive and takes up valuable time — and wasted time can mean more cases of food-borne illness.

Regular and consistent testing ensures high-quality food that's safe for the public to consume, says Odumeru. There will always be a need for better methods for detecting food-borne pathogens and toxins, and this new method will save time and money in the long run because fewer tests will have to be performed to deliver accurate information, he says.

"Our role as scientists is to develop better methods to detect bacteria and their toxins in common foods. We want to assist the Ontario food industry in being able to show that local foods are safe by testing with the best available methods."

Next, Odumeru will determine Immunocard STAT! 0157:H7's effectiveness in detecting *E. coli* 0157:H7 in drinking water.

University Honours Top Athletes

ORE THAN 630 athletes and coaches celebrated Gryphon accomplishments at the annual Athletics Awards Night April 1.

In 2004/05, U of G produced 69 Ontario University Athletics (OUA) All-Stars and 14 All-Canadians, and eight teams brought home OUA medals. The women's basketball and cross-country teams were OUA champions; the men's cross-country and women's golf teams captured silver; and the field hockey, women's rugby, men's track and field and men's wrestling teams won bronze. At the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) level, both cross-country teams won silver.

OUA Coach of the Year honours went to Angela Orton for women's basketball, Dave Scott-Thomas for women's cross-country and Mi-

chelle Turley for field hockey. Turley was also CIS Coach of the Year.

At the awards event, Guelph's top athletes were recognized for their achievements. This year's awards for top rookies both went to track-and-field Gryphons. The Dr. Mary Beverley-Burton Rookie of the Year Award was presented to Neb Zachariah, and Patrick Szpak was named Scott Yanchus Rookie of the Year.

Another track-and-field Gryphon, Brae-Anne McArthur, won the Shirley Peterson Award for the female student-athlete showing the most progress during her first three years at U of G. The equivalent honour for male student-athletes, the Don Cameron Award, went to hockey Gryphon Ken Ritson.

The winners of this year's President's Trophy, which recognizes stu-

dent-athletes who best exemplify the combination of academic and athletic excellence, were wrestler John Ewing and Lindsay Trimble, a member of the field hockey, indoor hockey and ice hockey teams. Trimble also won the W.F. Mitchell Sportswoman Award. The Sportsman Award was presented to swimmer Bryan McMillan.

Female Athlete of the Year was cross-country runner Kristina Rody; Male Athlete of the Year honours went to wrestler Jamie Cox.

Nat Laberge was named Dr. James MacLachlan Trainer of the Year for his work with the football Gryphons. Cathy Rowe Manager of the Year was Kevin Christiaens from

Forty-five team MIP and MVP awards were also presented.

How Do You Like Your Coffee?

BY LORI BONA HUNT

Ow ODES THAT SONG from Cheers go again? "Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came..."

No matter how the rest of the lyrics go, there is something about going to such a place, even if it's just for a cup of coffce.

We have one right on campus the Williams coffee counter in the University Centre.

Brenda Hearn and Roxann Resch have been working there for 8½ and seven years, respectively, and have been on the morning shift together most of that time.

They have the "I'll pour, you serve" system down to a T, which is why the place runs like clockwork even when it's busy and the lineup extends past the display case of salads, muffins and pastries.

Both women also make a point of finding out — and remembering — their customers' names, as well as little details such as how people take their coffee and if they prefer to use their own cup. It's no small feat, considering they serve hundreds upon hundreds of cups of coffee a week.

But to them, it's just part of the job — the fun part.

"People really like it when they walk up to the counter and you just hand them what they like," says Hearn. Adds Resch: "It's like how it was for Norm on Cheers; people come in, we know them and we know what they want."

In fact, customers have been known to ask the duo about the likes and dislikes of their other customers. "Someone will say: 'I'm getting cof-



Hospitality Services staff Brenda Hearn, left, and Roxann Resch serve up coffee with a smile and a knack for remembering exactly how you take it.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

fee today for Barbara — do you know what she takes?" says Hearn. "Again, it's that personal touch. People like that."

Both she and Resch say the social side of the job is what's kept them here for so long.

"It's what makes it fun — getting to know people, finding out about their lives," says Hearn. "I just found out yesterday that one of my customers likes to sleep on the floor. I said: "What are you, nuts?""

With a laugh, Resch adds: "OK, maybe that was too personal; some things you just don't want to know." On a more serious note, she adds: "When you're home all day with kids, there comes a time when you want and need some adult conversation. It keeps you sane."

So they talk to the customers ask their names, where they work, what they do. Eventually, they seem to be serving coffee mostly to friends.

"It's wonderful," says Hearn.
"For the most part, people treat us like colleagues, like anyone else."

Both women were delighted when president Alastair Summerlee — a longtime regular — invited them to his installation dinner. "It was absolutely fabulous," says Hearn.

They also develop a rapport with

the students. "They tell us about their exams, how much homework they have," says Resch. Adds Hearn: "I think it's that motherly image thing. They come up and want to talk about their day."

Like any job, there are, of course, some downsides. It can be a busy place, especially during morning and afternoon "coffee hour" and during special events and conferences. "It does get stressful when there's a lineup," Hearn says.

Then there are the grumpy customers, the ones who never talk or smile. But both women agree that the worst part of the job is the dirty coffee cups.

"Some people like to use their own cups, which is great," says Hearn. But every so often, someone gives them a cup that's still half full of "some strange-looking stuff" or one that has a thick buildup inside. "You want to take them and throw them away."

Hearn and Resch ended up working at U of G through — what else — a personal connection. Both had spent several years at home caring for their children and met while playing in the same volleyball league. They still play in that league and also joined a golf league together three years ago. Resch's children are now 15, 14 and 9; Hearn's are 33, 23 and 20, and the middle daughter will graduate from U of G this spring.

When they met, Hearn was working on campus. When she heard Resch was looking for part-time work, she suggested giving U of G a try, "We've been here together ever since — and we're still friends," says Hearn.

Cheers to that.

Insects Bug Ontario's Fine Wines

Researchers follow Asian lady beetle's destructive path to Niagara vineyards

BY ALICIA ROBERTS SPARK PROGRAM

Now they're getting into our vineyards.

The aggressive multicoloured Asian lady beetle, whose population has exploded across southern Ontario over the past few summers, has taken a liking to Niagara vineyards. That's causing much concern among grape growers and winemakers because the insects can end up in the winery vats, causing unexpected and undesirable flavours in the wine.

Prof. Mark Sears and graduate student Christic Bahlai of the Department of Environmental Biology are studying the origin, abundance, dispersal and eating habits of the beetle. By learning more about the pesky insect, they hope to find a way to stop it from invading winemakers' brews.

"Flavours of some wines changed abruptly in 2001, and it was soon apparent that beetles crushed with grape clusters were the source," says Sears. "As a result, the wines that had the off-flavour were never released for sale. We're trying to find out how the beetles get to the vines and what we can do to help keep vineyard owners informed for the upcoming season."

The multicoloured Asian lady beetle was imported to the United States in the early 1900s as a biological control measure for other insects. For many years, beetle populations weren't abundant and they weren't even detected on Canadian soil until 1994. But in 2001, the insect made a grand entrance on the agricultural scene, feasting on a new harmful soybean aphid that became abundant that year.

But when aphid numbers dwindled in the late summer, the beetles moved out of farmers' fields and on to wintering grounds, which included people's homes and the wine industry's vineyards.

The bectles don't eat the grapes unless they're already damaged, such as split or rotting grapes, and are almost ready for harvest. The problem is that once they've arrived, they often don't leave, and if they inhabit the clusters, they can end up tainting entire batches of wine.

Sears and Bahlai are trying to determine the beetles' impact on the wine industry and see what conditions during the season lead to significant populations in vineyards at harvest time. During the summer, the researchers monitored sovbean fields and other crops along the Niagara Escarpment for populations of aphids, especially the soybean aphid, and its natural enemy, the Asian lady beetle. They found that soybean fields and abundant aphid populations provided the ideal combination of food and proximity to vineyards along the beaches at the base of the escarpment.

In late August, they monitored several Niagara Region vineyards in co-operation with a number of growers for the presence of beetles during the harvest season.

By looking closely at these beetles' habits, Sears and his colleagues hope to figure out what's causing the bugs to move from field to vine. One theory is that ripening grapes release volatile chemicals called terpenes that attract beetles. Lady beetles, when they're aggravated, secrete a chemical called isopropyl methoxypyrazine, which has an earthy or nutty smell that's similar to the natural aromas found in some wines. Some beetles may secrete these or related chemicals to act as a calling card, inviting other beetles to the errapes.

Another theory involves the Niagara Escarpment's unique Carolinian forest tree species. In its native eastern Asia, the lady beetle makes its winter habitat in trees and woody shrubs. Sears believes the beetles here could be moving from soybean fields to the woods by instinct, but factors such as winds and scents could be pulling them towards nearby vineyards, which offer shelter and a source of food.

Sears hopes the research will contribute to an early warning method for grape growers, helping them prevent problems with lady beetle infestations and ensuring quality grapes for winemaking.

for winemaking.

"This one project will not automatically resolve the issue," he says.

"This is one in a series of projects under way that will help us better understand the problem, so we can make a more effective plan of action."

Other researchers involved in the project are Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) field crop specialist Tracey Baute, OMAF tender fruit specialists Neil Carter and Hannah Fraser, Kevin Ker of Ker Crop Management Services and Brock University, and Prof. Art Schaafsma of Ridgetown College.

This project is sponsored by OMAF, the Grape Growers of Ontario, the Wine Council of Ontario and Syngenta Crop Protection.



Changing Culture Poses Health Risk in North

Study finds Arctic Bay young people are shirking healthy traditional diet for readily available junk food

BY SARAH FISCHER SPARK PROGRAM

blamed for vanishing shorelines, decreased crop yields and lower numbers of traditional game, which particularly affects the food supply and way of life for Canada's Far North communities. But in the tiny hamlet of Arctic Bay on Baffin Island, Nunavut, U of G researchers have found that changes to traditional diet are posing an even greater threat to public health.

Erin Pratley, a graduate student in the Department of Geography, originally travelled to Arctic Bay, population 646, to study the effects of climate change on the local food supply and the community's health and well-being. And she did indeed find that increased ice breakups caused by rising temperatures force residents to travel farther north in search of caribou, It's often too costly to travel, so many people don't get the healthy fats that caribou meat provides.

But a far bigger health threat to youth in the largely Inuit community, she says, was their preference for imported junk food and the southern lifestyle over their traditional food and culture.

"Climate change definitely affects the security of Arctic Bay's food supply," says Pratley. "But the health of the community, particularly among



The remote community of Arctic Bay, Nunavut, is feeling the nutritional effects of climate change and changes to the traditional diet.

young people, is more seriously affected by this shift away from traditional diets."

This trend isn't limited to Arctic Bay. Poor public health and nutrition among youth has become one of the biggest issues affecting Canada's northern communities.

Pratley spent a month in the community interviewing residents. During her stay, she discovered that Arctic Bay's younger population isn't eating "country food," the traditional healthier meats and foodstuffs.

such as caribou and healthy fats derived from animals.

"Many young people are becoming detached from their roots and culture, and these lifestyle changes cause traditional foods to be looked on unfavourably by the younger generation."

She says young people are reaching for junk food, causing an alarming increase in child obesity, juvenile diabetes and weight-related joint problems. The junk food consumption is made worse by the consistent

unavailability of fresh produce.

"The high cost of transporting fresh produce often results in a lack of availability," says Pratley. "This makes it difficult for community members to encourage healthier non-traditional food alternatives."

In response, the local school has established a breakfast program to promote healthier eating. It's well-attended by younger children, but has met with limited success among older students, who think they're too "cool" to attend, she says.

Arctic Bay's local health unit is trying to address the problem by using educational displays to explain the benefits of traditional country foods. In addition, the unit's preand post-natal educational programs focus on improving the health of mothers and the new generation.

Pratley says it's important that Arctic Bay take the initiative in finding solutions to its public health woes because, like many small, closely knit communities, residents feel strong ties to their land and are reluctant to leave their homes.

Next, she plans to make a follow-up presentation to Arctic Bay residents, telling them about the progress of her research and how it's been accepted by other Canadian communities.

"The people of Arctic Bay and other northern communities like to know that their situations are being heard about in other parts of the country. And their experiences provide valuable lessons for us in demonstrating the physical and geographical effects of climate change on food supplies, as well as what happens to our health when traditional foodstuffs are replaced with junk food."

Pratley's graduate supervisors are Prof. Barry Smit, Geography, and Chris Furgal of Laval University. Her research is sponsored by the ArcticNet Network of Centres for Excellence.

Study Links Bacterium, Neurodegenerative Disorders

Team of scientists, including U of G researcher, finds toxin linked to neurological diseases more widespread than believed

BY ANDREW VOWLES

AGUELPH SCIENTIST is part of an international research team that has found a link between a common bacterium found worldwide and neurological disorders such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Although the group doesn't claim to have pinpointed the cause of these and related neurological diseases in humans, the researchers—including Susan Murch, a U of G graduate and research associate in the Department of Plant Agriculture—have found that the same toxin believed to cause an ASL-like disease among indigenous people on Guam exists in the brain tissue of Canadians with Alzheimer's.

Having found a toxic amino acid called BMAA (beta-methylamino-L-alanine) in 95 per cent of cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae, in Sweden, Scotland and Hawaii, the scientists are now calling on authorities to monitor for the toxin in drinking-water supplies.

Their work was published April 3 in the online edition of the *Proceedings of the National* Academy of Sciences.

Until recently, BMAA was known only in cycads. These plants, resembling small palm trees, grow in warm parts of the world and are eaten by some indigenous people. Among them are inhabitants of the Pacific island of Guam, who contract an ALS-like disease up to 100 times more often than anywhere else in the world. The affliction has been the leading cause of death among adult Chamorros since the 1950s.

The Chamorro people use cycad seeds to make flour for tortillas, Scientists have known since the 1960s that the flour contains the neurotoxin. But analysis showed that amounts in the flour were far below concentrations needed to cause neurological damage in animals and people.

More recently, a team of scientists that includes neurologist Oliver Sacks and Paul Cox, director of the Institute for Ethnomedicine at Hawaii's National Tropical Botanical Garden, wondered whether the substance might be present in another food.

That led them to investigate a delicacy made from a species of fruit bat that the Chamorro boil in coconut milk thickened with cycad flour. The bat, which is called a flying fox, also eats the cycad seeds. Three years ago, the team, including Murch, found that BMAA bioaccumulates in the bats. Eating a single flying fox would expose a person to as much BMAA as in about 1,000 kilograms of cycad flour, she says.

Magnified in the human body, the substance is believed to work as a slow-acting toxin that leads to a complex of neurological diseases. On Guam, the disease peaked in the mid-1900s at about 400 deaths per 100,000 people.

As the bats have been hunted nearly to extinction, the death rate among the Chamorro has fallen to about 22 per 100,000. (The scientists don't know whether flying foxes themselves suffer neurological damage from eating cycads.)

"it's a hard process," says Murch, who has witnessed the effects of the disease during research trips to Guam. "One of the real challenges with progressive neurological diseases is that they're long-term diseases."

They found the substance in Chamorro brain tissue analyzed at the Kinsmen Neurological Institute at the University of British Columbia. They also found BMAA in the brain tissue of two Alzheimer's sufferers who had died in Canada but had presumably never visited Guam. None was found in 13 other people who had died of unrelated causes. (BMAA affects a neurotransmitter that has been implicated in several diseases, including ALS, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's.)

Looking more closely, the team found that BMAA is actually produced by a species of cyanobacteria in the roots of the cycad trees. Their new paper describes their discovery that the same toxin is produced by diverse species of cyanobacteria common in oceans, lakes and soils around the world.

Their work is also featured this month in a New Yorker article about neurological diseases written by science writer Jonathan Weiner, whose books include the Pulitzer Prize-winning The Beak of the Finch and His Brother's Keeper, about a family affected by ALS. (Sacks, the author of Awakenings, wrote about the Chamorros in his 1996 book, The Island of the Colour Blind.)

Murch says links between toxins produced by cyanobacteria and neurological disorders need to be studied more closely, including everything from toxicity studies to large-scale population screening. "Our idea and approach are quite controversial and take the research in a new direction."

She spent two years working at the National Tropical Botanical Garden, which conserves tropical plants and identifies plant-derived medicines, on the island of Kauai. She studied uses of molecular biology and plant breeding to rescue endangered plants, work that was featured last fall in two articles in Science News and in other media reports.

Those earlier articles also described research by Prof. Praveen Saxena, Plant Agriculture, in developing propagation techniques for endangered plants and plants used as a source of herbal medicines.

"In vitro conservation of plants is a valuable tool for the study of endangered species such as cycads," says Murch.

She studied tissue culture with Saxena for her PhD, completed in 2000, following master's studies in horticultural science and a B.Sc. in chemistry, also at Guelph, Originally from Cambridge, Ont., she returned to Canada from Hawaii last fall.

In the Bovey Building, Murch is turning her interest in tropical plants into growing breadfruit from various Pacific Islands; she plans to develop tissue culture protocols for a germplasm bank for these plants.

"Working on interesting scientific questions is what's important," she says. "I love the feeling of being among the first people to learn something."

A Learning Expedition

Student travels a long and difficult road to realize her dream of a university education

By Lori Bona Hunt

HEN SHE WAS JUST SEVEN, Roe Duku fled with her family from Sudan to escape the war-related human atrocities, famine and disease plaguing the country. Roe, her parents and four brothers took refuge in Uganda and dreamed of making a new and better life. It was the beginning of a long and broken journey that eventually brought her to Guelph.

Now in her third year, the 22-year-old is studying applied human nutrition with aspirations of returning to her homeland and making a difference. The hopes of her entire family rest on her narrow shoulders.

Roe's oldest brother instilled in the family a belief that education was the key to may be the state of the s

point has required her and everyone she loves to give up a great

"I wanted to fulfil that dream for my brother, and I always wanted to be able to do something for my family," she says. "But I knew that before I could really help them, I had to go to school, and I knew it would be a sacrifice."

For her, it meant leaving home when she was still a child and, years later, spending months alone in a refugee camp just to have a chance to come to Canada. She arrived in Guelph in 2002 through the Guelph chapter of the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and its student refugee program (see related story on page 2).

Where she comes from, Roe's plight is not unique. Civil war has embroiled Sudan on and off for decades, and the reign of terror has left an estimated two million people dead and more than four million displaced. Here in Canada, however, her experiences and hardships are unfathomable to many.

After fleeing Sudan and living in Uganda for four years, Roe left home at age 11 to live with her oldest brother in Kenya. Married with a family of his own, he believed she would have a better shot at a quality education in a more peaceful and stable country.

"It was very hard to do," Roe says of leaving her parents and three other brothers. "But I was excited about the possibility of having new experiences and going to a new place, and I loved my brother."

Not long after, however, her brother became ill. He died wben she was 12. Grief-stricken, Roe wanted to go back home, but her sister-in-law insisted she stay and finish school.

"Before my brother died, I think he made a request to (his wife) that she keep me with her so I could stay in school. So she made sure I didn't go back."

After her brother's death, Roe's two surviving older brothers left school to work and support the family. "They stepped up and made sacrifices for me and my schooling," she says.

When she was almost finished secondary school, Roe learned that, despite her good marks, it was going to be difficult to attend university in Kenya. "They give priority to citizens," she savs.

e says. Through a friend, she learned about a local charity that had



connections to WUSC and its student refugee program. Unfortunately, because she had been living with her brother's family, she had never established refugee status in Kenya. To qualify for the WUSC program, she would have to leave her sister-in-law's home and go to the Kukuma Refugee Camp hundreds of miles away to get registered.

"I really didn't have any other option, and it was one of the toughest challenges I ever had to deal with," says Roe. "When I first got there, I told myself I wasn't going to stay more than two weeks — it was so terrible. Then I starred thinking it wasn't going to be forever, and what came out of it might be what I'd always wanted. So I told myself: 'You can make a life out of this place.'"

She ended up staying a year and even worked as an adult education teacher for the International Rescue Committee, one of the non-governmental organizations in the camp. It was her only source of income.

"It was a little ironic because I was young and I was the one teaching the adults, but I got the hang of it."

She taught English, Kiswahili, math, health and nutrition—all the while going through the application and selection pro-

Roe eventually made close friends in the camp, many of them other students hoping to come to Canada. They became her family. In total, more than 100 young people in the camp were vying for some 20 spots in the student refugee program. They all had to undergo a series of English and health exams, academic tests and interviews. After each round of interviews and tests, the applicant pool was reduced.

"You had to show them you were independent, that you could make it on your own and that you would make something out of the opportunity they would give you," she says. "I never really let myself think I wouldn't make it."

When Roe learned she was among the chosen 20, she was both elated and sad. Some of her friends were being left behind; the others would be scattered across Canada. She would be alone again.

"I didn't know anything about Guelpb," she says. "I couldn't even find it on the world map! That was really scary."

When she first arrived, she felt overwhelmed. "The food was

strange, and it was unforgivably cold in October. Little did I know the miseries winter would unleash."

She also had to learn a lot of new things at once, including how common Canadian household appliances worked. "Culture shock reigned big time, and I was incredibly homesick," she says.

"During the first week, I thought: 'I can't take this.' It seemed impossible to get used to anything. But I soon told myself it was what I had worked so hard for — this was my one way out — so I might as well get used to it."

Roe stayed with a host family for two weeks before starting school part time and moving on campus into International House. She soon started to grow accustomed to her new surroundings, including the U of G Library, which had intimidated her during her first visit. "What's more, I even started getting used to the food."

After her first year, Roe started taking a full course load and moved off campus.

Last fall, she was hired as the Central Student Association's chief electoral officer. She co-ordinated last month's student elections, an experience she calls "incredibly stressful and exhausting, but worth it."

She's also made friends and keeps in contact with some of the people from WUSC who helped bring her to Canada. Guelph is still not home, but it's more familiar.

Roe hopes to return to Africa one day and believes she can use her chosen field — applied human nutrition — to help rebuild the health of people in Sudan.

"Now that the south has signed a peace deal with the government, I believe there's a ray of light at the end of the tunnel."

In recent months, the genocide in Darfur, located in the north, has intensified. Reports of attacks and their aftermath are frequent in the media. Reading and hearing about the details are incredibly difficult for Roe.

"You feel so helpless. It seems as if it has been going on forever, and you just want it to stop. There are also times when you just want to forget about it, give it all up because worrying about it only makes you more miserable. But I can't keep it off my mind. It's my country, and they are my people."

Roe hasn't been back to Sudan since she left in 1989. And she hasn't seen her parents or brothers since coming to Canada. She exchanges e-mails with her two older brothers (the youngest is still in secondary school) and calls home when she can, but bas to rely on cellphones because land lines are scarce.

"My parents trust me," she says. "They know I'll make the right decisions and they know I care about them, so whenever I call home, they assure me that I'll be fine here. But I've spent so much time away. I miss home. I wish I could go home, and sometimes I get very depressed. But I can't just take off; I came here for a reason."

Roe doesn't plan to return home until she has that all-important university degree in hand. She says she wants to go back when she has something to give, when she can start a new chapter in her life.

"My parents don't put any pressure on me, but I have such a desire to make things better for them, for all my family. They've given up so much for me. That, and having a goal and knowing I want to achieve it, is what keeps me going."



U of G, Liaison College to Host **Food Fundraisers**

Canadian food writers to host and speak at dinners

ICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE for three multi-course dinners that will raise money for the annual Canadian Culinary Book Awards, which are sponsored by U of G and Cuisine Canada. Each meal will be prepared by expert chef instructors and their students and hosted by a well-known Canadian food writer. At each event, the host will begin welcoming guests at 5:30 p.m., and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

On April 13, Rose Murray, winner of the 2004 Best Cookbook Award for Hungry for Comfort: The Pleasures of Home Cooking, will share stories of her favourite comfort recipes at Liaison College in Kitchener.

Liz Driver, author of the new Dictionary of Canadian Cookbooks, will talk about some of her favourite cookbooks May 25 at the Atrium Restaurant in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. The meal will be prepared by U of G chef Simon Day and Liaison College's Tom Hummel.

A tour of the University's cookbook collection will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the McLaughlin Library, and participants are encouraged to bring

their favourite family cookbooks for

On June 9 at Liaison College, Anita Stewart, recipient of the Culinary Activist Award and an award-winning cookbook author, will share some of her favourite Canadian recipes, which will be served.

Cuisine Canada, a food-promoting organization that links people in the food industry from farmers and nutritionists to chefs and restaurateurs, was founded by Stewart. The annual book awards are presented in three categories to both English- and French-language books: Canadian Food Culture Award, Best Cookbook Award and Best Special-Interest Award. The winning books enter the U of G Library's culinary archives, the most complete collection of Canadian cookbooks in the world.

Tickets for the fundraising dinners are \$45 per person per meal. A special price of \$120 for all three is available until April 13; this offer includes a 2005 education tuition expense tax receipt.

For more information and to order tickets, call Penny Bateson at Liaison College, 519-743-8335.

RONNIE MCLESTER

Fourth-year criminal justice and public policy student

Other than playing the blockbuster video game Halo 2, Ronnie McLester doesn't have many hobbies or extracurricular activities in common with most guys his age. Growing up on the Oneida Nation of Six Nations reservation in Wisconsin, McLester was surrounded by cultural activities such as



after hours

drumming, dancing, painting and crafting dreamcatchers, jewelry, moccasins and corn husk

McLester, who paints, makes beaded wampum belts, drums and dances in his spare time, says he learned most of his creative skills from his dad and his

"I think that, with my generation, there's a lack of knowledge about cultural things, but it's getting better. The younger aboriginal generation is now learning a lot more about our culture in school."

He's helping to spread his own knowledge as the cultural facilitator at U of G's Aboriginal Resource Centre. He offers cultural workshops on things like moccasin-making and is a peer helper for the centre.

McLester also organizes the visiting elder program, bringing Dan and Mary-Lou Smoke to campus monthly to provide a spiritual outlet for the aboriginal community.

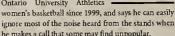
"Traditionally, we get our teachings and guidance from elders," he says. "A lot of students on campus have an outlet for spirituality at the University. There's a lack of that for aboriginal students, so we bring Dan and Mary-Lou Smoke here for anyone who's interested to be able to speak to an elder."

SAM KOSAKOWSKI

Alumni programs manager for CBS and CPES, staff member since 1990

Sam Kosakowski is winding down from another season of being yelled at. The life of a basketball referee isn't for everyone, he says. "You take a lot of grief, so you have to be able to deal with it."

Kosakowski has been officiating basketball since 1986 and Ontario University Athletics



Sam Kosakowski

"You can't please everyone," he says, explaining that refs must quickly assess a play and decide the im-

pact of the call as well as the outcome. "You've got to do all that decision-making in a fraction of a second."

He's also been a driving force behind what is now known as the Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association. Before 1986, field lacrosse didn't exist as a university sport. Kosakowski says he saw a void that needed to be filled and worked to raise the sport's profile. What started out as an exhibition tournament has become a full-fledged league with 10 teams. Today, he serves as league commissioner and coaches the U of G men's team.

In addition to sports, Kosakowski has an avid interest in photography. He admits he's uncomfortable taking shots of people, but says he has an eye for landscapes and lighthouses. He also has an eye for babies, having just returned to work in February after taking a six-month parental leave to care for his 13-month-old son, Joseph.

PATRICIA TURNER

Faculty member in the Department of Pathobiology since

Prof Patricia Turner is a Renaissance woman. "I'm kind of a closet artsy," she admits.

She's a longtime member of the Burlington Civic Chorale and also sits on its board of directors. Turner says the pieces the choir tackles are technically challenging and rarely sung in Patricia Turner English. Instead, they're performed in German, Italian and Latin.



Six months ago, she joined the Toronto Early Music Players Organization, where she plays recorder and Renaissance flute. "It's a little musical niche," she says. "Everybody learns to play recorder in Grade 6, but it's another thing to play with people who are really experienced.

Her main musical interests are classical and jazz. These outlets allow her to be creative and soulful and to meet a variety of people she wouldn't normally meet, she says. "You can totally absorb yourself in music, and for a moment, your worries are somewhere

Turner has also found a niche in the kitchen. She and her husband, a chef and baker by training, take turns when it comes to cooking. Her favourite meals are Mediterranean-inspired, mainly Italian, Greek and

The secret to good cooking? "My husband is Italian," she quips. "No, the real secret is good-quality ingredients, simple cooking and simple flavours."

In this spirit, Turner keeps an herb garden and grows her own tomatoes. Her favourite food writer is Marcella Hazan, who insists that: "Like truth, (flavour) needs no embellishment."

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Students Find Innovative Uses for Soybeans, Rendered Products

Competitions offer practical experience, chance to network with industry professionals

NNOVATIVE IDEAS ranging from fence posts made from feathers and recycled plastic to fuel made from soy are poised to emerge from U of G student ingenuity.

On April 7, student teams will present projects through their involvement in Project SOY (Soybean Opportunities for Youth), now in its ninth year, and the Guelph Creative Recycling Initiative (GCRI), which handed out awards for the first time in 2004. Before the judging begins, the projects will be on display at an open house from noon to 2 p.m. at Guelph's Ramada Hotel and Conference Centre

Project SOY encourages students to develop new uses and marketing

strategies for Ontario soybeans. GCRI is focused on rendered products from the animal industry.

One team has chosen to enter its project in both competitions by developing insulation that uses soybeans and rendered products. Among the 11 entries in Project SOY are soy gelatin, soy doughnuts, soy beer, chocolate soy graham crackers, and soy pizza dough. GCRI's seven entries include animal bedding, sunscreen, soil and a biodegradable polymer.

Project SOY and GCRI are open to students enrolled at U of G and its affiliated colleges at Alfred, Kemptville and Ridgetown, Students compete in two categories, under-

graduate/graduate and diploma.

These programs give students an opportunity to gain practical experience, network with industry professionals, win cash prizes and potentially take their ideas to mar-

Within each program, cash prizes of \$2,500, \$1,000 and \$500 will be awarded. The projects will be judged by industry representatives.

Project SOY is sponsored by First Line Seeds, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Maple Leaf Foods International, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ontario Soybean Growers.

GCRI is sponsored by Rothsay and U of G.

The Lure of the Rings

Consumer researcher grapples with the allure of professional wrestling

BY REBECCA KENDALL

FRIENO of Prof. Leighann Neilson's went into a Chapters bookstore a few years ago looking for the perfect Christmas gift. Knowing that Neilson had embarked on a new study earlier that year, the friend wanted to give her something she could use. When she approached the sales counter with her selection, the clerk looked at her and quietly said: "Don't worry, my husband reads those, too.'

The topic being studied by Neilson, a consumer researcher who joined the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies last year, has long gone untouched by marketing academics and appeals to a wider demographic than one might think. It involves the people who know everything from the name of Jake the Snake's first reptilian sidekick to which Summerslam featured the "Match Made in Heaven" and the "Match Made in Hell.

She is studying the fans of professional wrestling and what drives them to attend wrestling events and buy paraphernalia with such fer-

"It's fake and it has a stigma, and people are buying it in droves," says Neilson. "Why? What are they get-

Specifically, she's hoping to learn new things about consumer behaviour by examining what it means to be a wrestling fan from the fan's perspective, the risks and rewards of bepart of this stigmatized subculture and the risks and rewards

She says part of the allure of the 150-year-old phenomenon is that it has detailed story lines, characters that stay with fans for a long time and, much like a soap opera, interesting turns and complications. There's also a sense of community



Prof. Leighann Neilson doesn't just study the fans of professional wrestling — she's one herself. Here, she holds a picture of her favourite wrestler, Undertaker. PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

that fans feel with one another in a are training to be referees. world where it's not always easy to admit you love wrestling.

Neilson's work began Wrestlemania 18 (March 17, 2002, for those not in the know). A student at the Queen's School of Business at the time, she was there on a data collection field trip, taking photos of the wrestlers and fans and talking to spectators.

Thanks to a mention of her research in a Kingston Whig-Standard column, she also garnered sources for her study from Kingston, Ottawa and Kitchener-Waterloo.

Her sources varied in age, gender, ethnicity and income level, reflecting the differences in the fan base. Some merely watch the events; others have taken part as amateur wrestlers or

Neilson notes that fans often have to suppress their interest in certain circles because of the stereotypical view that people who follow wrestling are poor and uneducated. In fact, many of those she interviewed were university or college students, and one was a full-time professor who's an avid watcher of wrestling and talks about professional wrestling in his lectures.

"My informants were incredible," she says. "They were people who were passionate and who thanked me for the opportunity to talk about something that was important to them."

When television first became available to the public in the 1950s, wrestling was one of the most popular shows on the air and was shown eight times a week, says Neilson. Because most households didn't have a TV, people would watch wrestling in pubs or at storefront windows, she

When TV became standard in North American homes, more people were drawn in. Eventually, fans were able to tape matches, and today the Internet allows them to host their own websites, take part in fantasy wrestling with other fans from around the world, and broadcast imitations of some of the performances they see.

Neilson says professional wrestling couldn't have achieved its current level of global popularity without Vince McMahon, a third-generation wrestling promoter, a former rock show promoter and the person responsible for bringing a small regional syndicate called the World Wrestling Federation to a wider audience. Interest ballooned in the 1980s after McMahon spent his entire fortune renting out 100 arenas to broadcast the first Wrestlemania on closed-circuit TV. Neilson credits his willingness to take risks as the driving force behind the success that has made him a billionaire and earned him the powerful loyalty of the fans.

Neilson isn't simply an academic studying wrestling; she's also a fan. When asked who her favourite wrestler is, she answers without hesitation. She's partial to Undertaker, who, at six-foot-10 and 328 pounds, is a performer she thinks practises his craft well.

"He's brooding, very loyal and 'old school' in terms of the techniques he uses. He's passionate about what he does, and he commands respect from the audience and his opponents. His character is quite captivating - it's hard to look away when he's in the ring."

Motioning to the 2005 WWF calendar tacked on the wall of her office, she notes that Undertaker isn't included this year. "Vince made a big mistake there."

Neilson says you can tell a lot about a person's personality by who their favourite wrestling character is. People tend to identify with characters who have qualities they connect

"For Wrestlemania, my partner, who is a social and working-class historian, made a sign for Steve Austin because he wanted to pick the common guy, the labourer," she says. Austin, she explains, is the hero of the common man

"It's your personality rolled into

Exploring the Social Side of Organic Farming

Social, cultural dynamics influence conversion from conventional to organic, says researcher

BY SARAH FISCHER SPARK PROGRAM

RGANIC FRUIT, vegetable and crop production is heralded as alternative to conventional agriculture, but it's also a hotbed of social issues, especially when farmers convert from one style to another, says Maria das Dores Saraiva de Loreto, a post-doctoral researcher in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development.

Filling niche markets, the promise of premium prices and addressing environmental safety concerns are thought to be the prime motivations behind many producers' shift to organics, she says. But she believes social and cultural reasons play a vital role, too.

"Although economics and the environment are important factors when considering conversion to organic production, the decision-making process is a social one," says Loreto. "The implementation of organic farming is associated with a change of values and is based on the lifestyle of the social actors who are involved with organic production."

She is collecting data on organic production in Canada, including the proximity to local markets and affiliations with community businesses of producers, as well as information about the views of government and non-government organizations, researchers and certifying bodies towards organic farming. She mailed 450 questionnaires to Ontario organic producers and will conduct in-depth interviews with a sample of these producers about their lives before, during and after their conversion from conventional to organic production.

Loreto is also interested in family and gender dynamics surrounding the conversion process. As a result, she will be considering such things as how conversion affects families during financially trying times, the level of encouragement family members provide in the conversion process, and how men and women differ in opinion about the effects of the conversion process on the family.

Gender and family are important when looking at organic production,

"They affect the decision to convert to organics as well as how financial difficulties are dealt with during the conversion process.

Afterward, Loreto will use the data from her study to compare producers in Canada with those in other countries that are also adopting organic methods, such as Brazil. There, she says, research has found that conversion to organic production has environmental and economic

benefits, especially for small producers, who enjoy lower production costs when working with organic instead of manufactured agricultural

By comparing Canada with other countries, Loreto hopes to better understand the organic food production movement and to share successful conversion methods internationally, helping those who want to take the leap from conventional to organic.

"If the reality of organics in Canada is similar to that of other countries, it may help us understand what works during the conversion process and what doesn't. We can then look at organic production on a larger scale and, for families who choose to convert from conventional to organic practices, smooth that conversion as much as possible."

Loreto collaborated with OCPP/ Pro-Cert Canada Inc., the Ecological Farmers Association and the Canadian Organic Growers on this project, which is being sponsored by the OntarBio Organic Farmers' Co-operative and CAPES-Brazil.

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Student Torn Between Acting, Medical Career

Continued from page 1

and CBC's Must Be Santa, as well as commercial work for companies such as Tim Hortons, Rogers Cable, Sprite and Fidelity Insurance. She also spent four years as a member of the NBA Raptors junior dance pack. Her role as Tiffany in Ice Princess is by far her biggest and most notable performance to date.

Training and rehearsals started just as Lai was wrapping up her finals last April.

"I had to book off one day on the set to complete my last exam," she says. "The experience was awesome. I wouldn't trade it for anything. I met people who were so talented, and the entire production had such a great feel. It was the perfect summer

Her preparation consisted of two days a week of ballet and three hours each day on the ice with coaches who weren't afraid to push her until they got the results they wanted.

"It worked out for the best because I did all my own skating in the movie, with the exception of one jump, and I ended up getting in really great shape. All the training really paid off, but it was hard."

The past few weeks have been a whirlwind for the young actress. On March 13, she walked the red carpet at the film's Los Angeles premiere. "It was so cool," she says, although she admits she found the photographers a bit intimidating.

Deciding between a career in film and a career in medicine has not been easy for Lai.

"Because I'm in school, people think acting is a side thing. When I originally started school, school was sort of a side thing. I want to be a pediatrician and I'm working toward that, but at the same time, I'm pursuing acting outside of school and making a connection to film acting."

Lai says she'd like to pack up and move to Los Angeles to get more exposure, but it's just not feasible.

"I have a degree to finish, my family and friends are here and I love it here. I'm being really grounded about the whole thing."



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore, to be held in June. Anyone who submits the right answer by April B at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r. kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. \$69B2. The following people correctly reported that the March 23 photo was of a sculpture in the MacKinnon Building courtyard: Isobel Lander, Margaret Curzon, Stephen Gazzola, Sandra Campbell, John VanManen, Robin Morrison, Wayne Aitken, Annette Blok and David Haisell. Morrison even told us where the sculpture used to be located — it was a finial that sat over the entrance to the original Convocation Hall and Gymnasium.

Producing E-Textbook a First for Office of Open Learning

Continued from page 1

Although the content of the disc is international in scope, including material about ancient Greece and Rome and the Far East, Canadian examples do appear. Clicking on sacred spaces turns up images of cathedrals alongside a photo of Lake Louise in Banff National Park, arguably an iconic landscape for Canadians. Elsewhere, the Vimy Memorial in France commemorating Canada's role in the First World War appears in a discussion of vertical monuments. Preston, who completed her mas-

ter's degree with Pollock-Ellwand in 1999, is now studying indigenous cultures and landscapes McMaster's anthropology program. She brought a background in the classics and ancient history to the

Preston says the disc allows students to explore the social, cultural and political issues that underlie landscape forms and helps explain why landscape elements look the way they do today. "Everything in the landscape has a legacy.'

The pair researched and wrote the electronic textbook with help from other grad students, including initial research by PhD candidates Susan Mulley and Lee-Anne Milburn.

Earlier beta versions allowed the group to revise the textbook based on students' feedback about such features as navigating around its components, says John Cassidy, OOL's manager of distance education and DE learning technologies. Staff in his office have helped with everything from organizing the textbook's layout and obtaining copyright clearance on its contents to marketing the book.

OOL director Virginia Gray says

producing this electronic textbook vas a first for her office. Although textbook publishers routinely publish CD-ROMs, she says she knows of no such publication produced by another university's distance education office. "It's a peer-reviewed scholarly publication."

Digital North Media Inc., a screen media company, created animation and digital graphics for the disc. Landscape Legacies will be published and distributed by the University of Toronto Press.

Pollock-Ellwand says the project has required her to rethink learning styles, including considering how students engage with the course and each other in front of a computer screen rather than in the classroom. "All of that was interesting from my point of view as a teacher.

Besides providing the electronic textbook to U of G students, the authors are now considering making it available to other landscape architecture schools in North America and perhaps even worldwide. Noting that the disc covers a standard first-year university curriculum common to most design and planning schools, Pollock-Ellwand says: "This potentially would be very attractive to schools that may not be able to hire a design history specialist."

Recycling Tip of the Month

hether you're a student doing an end-ofsemester cleanup or an employee spring cleaning your office, remember to separate any mixed materials like spiral-bound notebooks and binders. The paper inside may be recyclable, but only if you remove the cover or plastic binding first.



www.pr.uoguelph.ca/recycle



AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date Deadline Publication Date Deadline May 18 May 10 April 20 April 12 June 1 May 24 April 26 May 4 June 15 June 7

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

1999 Volvo S70, rare Turbo GLT, loaded, two sets of new tires, Nordic package, service records, 75,000 kilometres, Ben, Ext. 53513 or 767-6734.

1999 Chrysler Intrepid ES, four-door automatic, 3.2L V6, platinum, ABS, tilt, air, power, traction control, cruise, AM/FM CD, overhead information centre, one owner, well-maintained, e-tested September 2004, certified, 169,000 km, 766-9625 or r.ggift@sympatico.ca.

Whitewash oak crib with matching dresser and change table, two years old, Nadia, Ext. 56278 or 821-3644.

Yamaha electronic keyboard, 100voice bank, 22 rhythms, automatic accompaniment and harmony, includes AC adapter and adjustable stand, 824-7342.

Two 1986 BMWs, 535i models, sunroofs, both five-speed, run both or one for parts, Mike, 822-2910 or cholling@uoguelph.ca.

Portable dishwasher, two years old; glass table with four chairs, 651-2351.

Dresser and mirror, good condition, 823-2116.

PetStep 11, multi-purpose ramp for dogs, lightweight, portable, www. petstep.com for photos, 821-2960 or linda.thompson@bioenterprise.ca.

White Kenmore apartment-size stackable washer and dryer, Donna, Ext. 56754 or 837-1596.

Three-bedroom 1,550-square-foot home in south end, 55-foot lot, four baths, on bus route, gas, central air, cathedral ceiling, upgrades, 836-2733 after 6 p.m. or pkrell@rogers.com.

FOR RENT

Short- or longer-term accommodation in furnished three-bedroom house in south end or two-bedroom condo in Phoenix Mill, immaculate, Jacuzzi, laundry, parking, house available May 1 for \$1,800 a month inclusive, condo available June 1 for \$1,600, 823-1857 or intelrent@ hotmail.com.

Furnished or unfurnished threebedroom house at 687 College Ave. W., 20-minute walk to campus, on bus route, washer/dryer, suitable for family or three students to share, \$1,100 a month inclusive, Lillan, 836-8961 or trosenda@uoguelph.ca.

Cottage in Southampton, two bedrooms, large private lot, four-minute walk to beach, sleeps four, fireplace, four-piece bath, deck, picnic table, gas barbecue, \$800 a week with minimum two-week rental, avail-

able July 2 to 16 and Aug. 6 to 20, 824-7969.

Three-bedroom family home, close to campus, mall and schools, suitable for sabbatical faculty or three university students, parking, laundry, available May 1, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, 822-6765 or gloriaz_ca@yahoo.com.

Restored stone cottage on 81 acres, minutes from Guelph and Hwy. 401, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, references and first and last months' rent required, 905-854-0152.

Three-bedroom apartment near Gordon and Water streets, balcony, laundry, parking, 10-minute walk to campus, \$1,200 a month inclusive, one-year lease, Kathryn, 763-7567 or kmcchesn@uoguelph.ca.

One-bedroom apartment in house, new kitchen, water softener, mature third-year or graduate student preferred, non-smokers, no pets, \$700 a month inclusive, first and last months' rent required, 827-1090.

Two-bedroom lakefront cottage on Ahmic Lake, close to Parry Sound, with two-bedroom guest cabin, private treed setting, suitable for two families, \$1,200 a week or \$1,000 a week for two weeks, 824-1773.

Furnished three-bedroom, 2,000-square-foot house in south end, gas, central air, finished basement, two-car garage, deck, fenced yard, on bus route, close to schools, parks and trails, available mid-May, Beren, berenrob@uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom cottage at Sauble Beach, private deck, four-piece bath, dishwasher, washer/dryer, close to beach, available July 1 to 10 and Aug. 21 to Sept. 4, \$800 a week, 905-659-2345 or beechtree@mail.com.

One- and two-bedroom accommodation for families and mature students for people affiliated with the University, visit www.housing. uoguelph.ca (click on "Housing for Families").

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in house, close to shopping and bus stop, mature grad student or professional preferred, \$600 a month inclusive, Janet, 821-0177.

Newly renovated heritage farmhouse on 120 acres, located two km south of 401 on Hwy. 6, 1½ baths, available now, \$1,800 a month plus utilities, Bob, 823-5945.

WANTED

SmartSquares game tiles and instruction booklet in English, Cathy, 821-7512.

House to rent for professor and family for September 2005, non-smok-

ers, no pets, or will swap for spacious two-bedroom flat in central London, England, 44-207-6401025, arjande@ yahoo.co.uk or praiuk@yahoo.co. uk.

Unfurnished apartment, close to bus stop, with laundry and kitchen facilities, rent under \$450 a month, Gene, leave message at 821-3965.

Donate your used or gently abused mountain bike to a Cuban family, frequent traveller to Cuba will arrange transport, Mike, 822-2910 or cholling@uoguelph.ca.

AVAILABLE

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, Cobi, leave message at 836-8680 or cdemmers@uoguelph. ca.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Willow artist Barbara Guy Long will lead a workshop on using willow wattle weave to create a rustic cedar trellis April 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$85. The deadline for registration and payment is April 11. To register for workshops, call Ext.

Naturalist Chris Earley leads the workshop "Warblers: The Less Common Ones" April 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are required by

"A Woodland and Wildflower Garden" is the theme of a workshop with gardener Lenore Ross May 5. It will be offered twice - from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$35. The deadline for registration and payment is April 21.

The Theatre in the Trees production of William F. Brown's A Single Thing in Common runs Saturdays until April 30. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$53. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's noon-hour winter concert series concludes April 7 with student soloists from Guelph's applied music program performing in MacKinnon

The U of G Contemporary Music Ensemble conducted by Prof. Ellen Waterman performs April 8 at 8 p.m. at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. The concert will feature saxophonist/composer Jean Derome, Siren and the Ensemble for Musical Improvisation. Admission is \$8 general, \$5 for students and seniors.

The U of G Jazz Society presents Juno Award-winning Canadian jazz legend Phil Nimmons in performance with its rehearsal ensemble, Beyond Category, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Dublin Street United Church. Tickets are \$15 general, \$10 for students, and will be available at the door

FILM

The McLaughlin Library and the Central Student Association's free documentary film series wraps up April 6 with State of Denial (AIDS crisis in Africa) at 7:15 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307

NOTICES

Steelworkers Local 4120 is calling for nominations for its annual Susanne Sprowl Community Service Award, which recognizes significant contributions to the betterment of the University and the external community through community spirit and volunteer work. U of G Steelworkers members in good standing are eligible for the award, which will be presented at the Community Barbecue in July. Nominations are due May 1 and can be mailed to Room 451 of the University Centre, faxed to 767-6660 or e-mailed to admin@ uswa4120.ca

The Mac-FACS Alumni Association presents a Spa Day for the Soul April 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Atrium Restaurant in Macdonald Stewart Hall. Cost is \$50. For tickets, contact Marilyn Bracken at Ext. 56753 or CSAHS@uoguelph.ca.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada is calling for applications for its Canada-Latin America-Caribbean research exchange grants, which support travel-related expenses for collaborative research. The deadline for submissions is April 29. Program guidelines can be found at www aucc.ca/programs/intprograms/ latincarib e.html

SEMINARS

The Cognitive Science Group's winter seminar series wraps up April 6 with Ben Goddard discussing drug addiction at 3:30 p.m. MacKinnon 232.

The Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series presents Meaghan Fowler explaining Pathogenicity of Escherichia coli OI57:H7" April 8 at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

"A Canadian Veterinarian's Experiences and Insight Into the Chinese Animal Health System" is the topic of Jim Fairles of U of G's Animal Health Lab in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series April 8 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' series of workshops on the scholarship of teaching and learning concludes April 21 with sessions featuring Richard Gale, director of the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of

Teaching and Learning Higher Education Program, and Keith Trigwell, principal research fellow at Oxford's Institute for the Advancement of University Learning. For complete details and to register, visit www.tss. uoguelph.ca.

April 15 is the deadline to apply for the third annual Course Re/design Institute, set to run May 29 to June 1. The intensive four-day program provides support to instructors who are designing or revamping a course. Enrolment is limited to 12. For more details, visit www.tss, uoguelph.ca or call Trevor Holmes at Ext. 52963.

THEATRE

The Guelph Project 2005 presents Generation Youth April 7 and 8 at 8 p.m. and April 9 at 2 and 8 p.m. in Lower Massey Hall. Tickets are \$5 at the door or in advance at the Wellness Centre in the Powell Building or the Info Desk on UC Level I.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Anuradha Chawla, a PhD candidate in the Department of Psychology, is April 12 at I p.m. in UC 103. The thesis is titled "Retention Versus Turnover - Opposite Sides of the Same Coin? Comparing Employees' Motivation to Stay With Their Turnover Intentions." The adviser is Prof. Steven Cronshaw.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Ionathan Hovius, Integrative Biology, is April 19 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is titled Rotifer Community Responses to Bythotrephes longimanus in Canadian Shield Lakes." The advisers are Prof. Kevin McCann and Beatrix

The final examination of PhD candidate Deborah Miller, Psychology, is April 22 at 10 a.m. in UC 103. The thesis is titled "An Examination of Employees' Fairness Perceptions and Reactions Toward Changing Retirement Policies." The adviser is Prof. Serge Desmarais.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Heart and Stroke Foundation is staging a new team fundraising event called the Adventure Challenge May 10. It will feature teams of 10 people competing against each other in a timed race to complete five distinctly Canadian challenges. The tasks include climbing an inflatable

mountain, paddling in an on-land canoe relay and building a log cabin. For more information, call 837-4858 or send e-mail to kbertrand@

The 38th annual Guelph Spring Festival kicks off April 29 with the Toronto Masque Theatre performing Henry Purcell's opera The Fairy Queen. Other featured performers at the festival, which runs weekends to May 15, include musical comedienne Mary Lou Fallis, Leonard Enns and his Da Capo Chamber Choir, Toronto Consort, the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and the Veritas Piano Quartet. For complete details, visit www.guelph springfestival.org.

The Roots & Shoots Speaker Series presented by the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada continues April 7 with Heather Lekx discussing "Community Shared Agriculture: A Local Food System, a Way of Life" at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 122 Harris St.

The Royal City Calligraphy Guild is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a special exhibition at Guelph Civic Museum. "Calligraphy: The Lively Lettering Arts" opens with a reception April 8 at 7 p.m. and continues until June 5.

The Multiple Sclerosis Society holds its annual Super Cities Walk April 17. To participate or donate, call

The Ignatius Farm CSA (Community Shared Agriculture) will hold an open house April 20 at 7 p.m. at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre. For more information, call 824-1250, Ext. 245.

The Canadian Embroiderers' Guild Guelph will hold its annual open house and silver tea April 12 from I to 5 p.m. at St. George's Anglican

The Guelph Caribbean Canadian Association hosts a gospel concert featuring Rose Havens, the U of G choir Siren and Aileen Bennett-Heath April 9 at 7:30 p.m. at War Memorial Hall. For ticket information, call 824-4485.

The annual Doors Open Guelph runs April 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring tours of 12 Guelph buildings of historical and architectural interest that aren't generally open to the public. Campus sites featured on

this year's program are Johnston Hall and the Portico and the Rutherford Conservatory and Alumni Gardens. Other buildings on the tour include the Ignatius Jesuit Centre, the Woodlawn Cemetery Mausoleum and London House. For more details, visit www. guelph.ca/doorsopenguelph or call the Guelph Arts Council, 836-3280.

"Inform, Support, Succeed!" is the theme of the Upper Grand District School Board's first Parent Learning Fair, which runs April 30 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at John F. Ross CVI. Geared to parents of students in grades 7 to 12, the free event will include a motivational talk by Herbie Kuhn, in-house announcer for the Toronto Raptors, and workshops on topics such as career pathways, teenage depression and academic success. For more details, call Brian Serafini at 822-7090, Ext. 306.

The Elora Festival welcomes donations of books for its annual used-book sale, to be held May 7 and 8 at the Elora Curling Club. Organizers particularly invite donations of paperbacks, children's books and mysteries. Donated books should be dropped off by April 29 at the festival office, 33 Henderson St. in Elora. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. For pickup, call 846-0331.

The Guelph Humane Society will hold its sixth annual spring garden auction and tea April 24 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Italian Canadian Club, 135 Ferguson St. Guest speakers are Monte Hewson of Monte's Place and Carlo Mann of Manor Landscaping. Tickets are available from Loreen Kelly at Ext. 56567 or from the Humane Society at 824-3091. All proceeds support the society's spay/neuter program.

The Iane Goodall Institute's local Roots & Shoots office hosts an Earth Day celebration April 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Royal City/ Silvercreek Park (meet in Royal City Park). Activities will include tree planting, clearing invasive nonnative vegetation, a litter cleanup and eco-games.

The Guelph International Resource Centre (GIRC) has begun its seventh annual sale of rain barrels. The GIRC estimates that Guelph saves thousands of litres of water during each rainfall thanks to use of the barrels. To order a rain barrel, call 822-3110. For more information, visit www.



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INSIDE: MACDONALD STEWART ART CENTRE TURNS 25 • PROGRAM COUNSELLOR GETS AN A+



Kim Schneider, left, and Karen Eny have won top scholarships for master's studies.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALB

Payette Scholarships to Two

Students recognized for academic excellence, research ability, leadership

BY ANDREW VOWLES

or crops" are the research interests of two U of G students who have received 2005 Julie Payette-Science and Engineering Research Canada (NSERC) Research Scholarships.

Karen Eny, a fourth-year student in applied nutrition, and Kim Schneider, a master's student in land resource science, were among 24 Canadians awarded this year's scholarships for academic excellence, research ability and potential, and leadership and communication skills.

Named for Julie Payette, a Canadian astronaut and member of the NSERC council, the one-year \$25,000 scholarships are offered to the best master's candidates reviewed by eight discipline-based selection committees within NSERC.

Schneider, now completing the first year of her graduate degree, works with Prof. Peter Van Straaten on the use of local mineral resources as fertilizers. Dubbed "rocks for crops," the concept is intended to help smallholder farmers in developing countries improve agricultural practices and attain food self-sufficiency.

She hopes to conduct fieldwork in Brazil, including the possible use of a fungus — already employed to make citric acid — to break down phosphate rock material into nutrients available to plants.

Schneider, who attended a conference in Brazil last year with her supervisor, says farmers and researchers from a number of developing countries are interested in the concept.

"Peter's passion for contributing to sustainable agriculture and increasing food security — thereby alleviating poverty in many situations — has really inspired me to take on this project," she says. "I was also attracted to working with him because of his strong social conscience and drive to make a difference."

Schneider studied environmental sciences at Guelph through the co-operative education program. Her co-op assignments included a work term at Health Canada's pest Continued on page 10

Shepard Named AVP (Academic)

SETS director will begin new post June 15

PROF. ALAN SHEPARD, director of the School of English and Theatre Studies, has been appointed associate vice-president (academic) for a five-year term that begins June 15.

Shepard was appointed following an extensive national search that involved a diverse pool of candidates and an external consultant, says provost and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso, who chaired the search committee. The committee presented two candidates to the University community in March.

"There was widespread campus participation in the process, and Dr. Shepard received strong support from faculty, students and staff for his candidacy," says Mancuso. "He has all of the qualities required to make an outstanding AVPA, including a passion for education and a vast understanding of academics. He also brings fresh thinking to the University community, and 1 am very pleased to have him take on this new important role."

Shepard will be responsible for the content and administration of all undergraduate programs, including launching new programs and managing existing ones. He will also oversee the Office of Open Learning Teaching Support Services and academic advising and counselling.

Shepard joined U of G as director of SETS in 2002. He also represents the University on the Council of Ontario Universities. Before moving to Guelph, he was on the faculty of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, where he chaired the English department for several years and di-



Prof. Alan Shepard

rected a two-year university-wide self-study and accreditation project.

He earned his BA from St. Olaf College and a PhD in English from the University of Virginia. His academic interests include early modern literature, contemporary theatre, and the links between literature and science in early modern culture. An award-winning teacher, he is the author or editor of several books and numerous scholarly articles, is the editor of the journal Renaissance and Reformation, and has written on a range of pedagogical issues, including the teaching of writing, academic ethics and curriculum development.

"I am honoured and delighted by the opportunity to serve as AVPA, and I look forward to working with colleagues across the University," says Shepard.

In making the announcement, Mancuso also expressed deep appreciation to Prof. Iill McCutcheon for her dedicated service as acting AVPA since 2003.

Stratford Festival, U of G Partner on New Website

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council supports collaborative project with \$163,000 award

BY REBECCA KENDALL

NE YEAR after the unveiling of U of G's Canadian Adaptations of Shakespeare Project (CASP), the largest and most sophisticated website in the world dedicated to showing Shakespeare's cultural influence on a nation, Guelph has signed a unique memorandum of understanding with the Stratford Festival of Canada to create a new hybrid website that combines CASP and the vast

holdings of the Festival's archives.

Adding momentum to the project is an award of \$163,000 announced two weeks ago by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

The agreement, which creates a formal partnership between Guelph and Stratford, states that together they will create the world's most advanced site devoted to teaching Shakespeare, says Prof. Daniel Fischlin, English and Theatre Studies, who designed and manages the

CASP website, located at www. canadianshakespeares.ca.

"The idea is to produce a site that will play to every possible audience from grade school and high school students to post-secondary and longtime learners to theatre aficionados at an international level," he

Stratford's director of information technology, Darina Griffin, approached Fischlin last September after the CASP website caught her eye. "To function in an Internet marketplace, we need to create hubs that are intelligently partnered," says Griffin, who notes that 85 per cent of the Festival's patrons are university-educated and that collaborating with a university is a logical move. Making the choice even more obvious, she says, is the existence of the CASP website.

"The work that Daniel has done is so far ahead of anything currently out there on the web that it seemed like a brilliant partnership. I can't tell you how impressed I am with his ability to envision the future. He's really a powerful, creative mind."

The Stratford Festival, now in its 53rd year, is currently storing count-less artifacts that have been collected since the 1960s, including images, memos between staff about various production plans, costumes, props, stage plans, tapes of rehearsals and music.

The task of the website team is to go through the vast collection, sort Continued on page 10

Information Session Explores Budget

T ITS APRIL 5 meeting, Senate received for information the Office of Open Learning's annual report, appointments to graduate faculty, academic misconduct statistics and Senate's meeting schedule for the 2005/06 academic year. Senate also approved two motions - to renew the India semester for another five years and to amend a paragraph about academic consideration in the undergraduate calendar.

The Senate meeting began with an informal information session, open to members of the University community, to discuss U of G's 2005/06 Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities budget. The Senate Executive Committee had approved the session in response to a number of requests for opportunities for members of the University community to explore issues related to the budget.

The session was chaired by committee chair Prof. Al Sullivan, Plant Agriculture.

President Alastair Summerlee outlined this year's budgetary challenges, including the reasons for an expected budget shortfall of about \$11 million and proposals for containing costs, increasing revenues and reducing operating expenses. He stressed the need to present a preliminary budget to Board of Governors although the provincial government's own budget plans remain uncertain. He also emphasized that the provost and deans are undertaking an integrated planning process to guide strategic decision-making across campus (a discussion document can be found on the president's website).

During a question-and-answer period, guests and Senate members discussed aspects of the preliminary budget, with information and comments from members of the University's senior administration, including John Miles, assistant vice-president (finance).









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from the president

Student Achievements Are Inspiring

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS since I opened Pandora's box, letting more than two dozen angry and violent protesters into a Board of Governors meeting where the University's budget was being discussed.

The misery that was unleashed was significant. The aggressive tactics of the protesters, who were both verbally abusive and violent, left me horrified and dispirited. I was not alone, as most people involved in that meeting and melee emerged emotionally raw.

In the days since, it has been extremely gratifying to see how the community has responded. Students posted video footage of the event on The Cannon website. In response, there has been an outpouring of comments. I have received telephone calls, e-mails and personal visits from current and former students, alumni and friends, and faculty and staff. In addition, a number of e-mails expressing outrage and disappointment at the actions of the protesters were posted online. We have even learned that some of the "student" protesters were not from U of G.

With emotions still running high, it would be easy to dwell on the actions of the protesters on that afternoon. But 1 am choosing instead to take my cue from the myth of Pandora. Opening the lid, she let loose a world full of disruption, but one creature remained inside - hope.

In the days leading up to and following the protest, many positive things happened on this campus that involved a far greater number of Guelph students. Focusing on the behaviour of a tiny cohort of individuals seems trivial by comparison, and it is not appropriate to let the thuggish actions of a small group overshadow the inspiring scholastic and philanthropic achievements of the majority.

During the last weekend of March, a group of students raised \$32,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society during Relay for Life, more than double the amount collected by any post-secondary Canadian school to date. These students and their supporters - more than 280 of them - spent the night running laps around Alumni Stadium on the evening of the spring "winter storm.

Our student athletes raised \$1,200 to help Hopewell Children's Homes Inc. create a recreational play centre for children with developmental disabilities, and the football team pledged \$1,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph, bringing their three-year total pledge to more than \$5,000. In addition, students living in residence banded together to sponsor seven teams in the Guelph Minor Hockey Association.

Students in the first-year "Rebel Musics" course taught by Prof. Daniel Fischlin, English and Theatre Studies, staged a benefit concert that raised more than \$5,000 to help widows in Gbonyonga, a small town in Northern Ghana, become independent farmers.

Our students donated \$21,913 from their meal plans to buy food for local charities, the highest amount ever raised at any Canadian university or college through Meal Exchange. Dozens of students personally delivered the food to local organizations.

On the academic side, students Karen Eny and Kim Schneider were awarded prestigious 2005 Julie Payette/NSERC Research Scholarships, offered to only 24 students across Canada. Each scholarship is worth \$25,000. And we've just learned that fourth-year engineering student Alyssa Lindsay is this year's recipient of the "Leaders for the Future" award from the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education.

For the first time ever, 100 per cent of our graduate students forwarded by the University for funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council were awarded scholarships.

In addition, a U of G student team won the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge at Penn State University this month, defeating a team that has never lost in the competition's four-year history.

Finally, during the weekend that followed the protest, third-year student Mitzi Hepburn played in the Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association's junior nationals tournament, her first championship-level tournament since losing a leg in a motorcycle accident.

It is the achievements and the selflessness of these students that embody the spirit of the University of Guelph, not the disruptive actions of a few.

That's not to say that free speech and protest don't play an important role at U of G and in society. They do and always will because we have a time-honoured tradition of respecting people's right to dissent and instigate change. But violence and threats are not what brings about improvements; they only undermine what you're fighting for and undercut the free exchange of ideas. Change requires dedication and commitment, both to one's cause and to increasing one's own knowledge. It also requires hope — the one thing left behind in Pandora's box - a desire to do something good and the belief that it can be done. The students I have mentioned here are shining examples of just that.

As graduating student Deborah Di Liberto said in delivering her "Last Lecture" April 7, today's students "are the generation we have been waiting for."

board of governors

Preliminary MTCU Budget Approved Amid Protest

HE APRIL 6 MEETING of Board of Governors, where the University's 2005/2006 MTCU preliminary operating budget was being discussed and debated, was disrupted by a group of protesters.

The board proceeded to discuss the budget for more than two hours after president Alastair Summerlee admitted the protesters to the meeting. Comments were received from students, staff and employee group representatives who were attending on behalf of their respective organizations.

The budget was approved by the board, as was the operating budget for the University Centre and ancillary budgets (Hospitality Services, Parking and Student Housing). When the board chair tried to proceed with other items on the agenda, the protesters once again became agitated and disruptive.

After trying to restore order several times, the chair adjourned the meeting, and the remaining agenda items were approved later by the executive subcommittee, including the preliminary Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) budget. The University will continue to restructure programs and services offered under the OMAF contract to achieve a balanced budget and position the partnership for the future.

The executive also approved the appointment of Prof. Alan Shepard, director of the School of English and Theatre Studies, as associate vice-president (academic) (see story on page 1).

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GOSS TO HEAD KEMPTVILLE

Prof. Michael Goss, Department of Land Resource Science, has been appointed director of Kemptville College, effective Sept. 1. Goss has had a working relationship with Kemptville since 1991 through his research, as a leader in the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council and as director of the resources management and environment research program under the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food contract.

SCOTTISH COLLOQUIUM SET

U of G's Scottish studies program and the Scottish Studies Foundation will hold their annual spring colloquium and family history day April 23 at Knox College, 59 St. George St., Toronto, Keynote speaker is U of G librarian Tim Sauer, who will discuss the digitization of the works of Guelph founder and Scottish author John Galt. Cost of the event is \$25 general, \$20 for members of the foundation. To register, call Ext. 53209 or send e-mail to scottish@

U.S. FOOD SECURITY EXPERT TO GIVE ANN OAKS LECTURE

The 2005 Ann Oaks Lecture Series in the Biological Sciences presents Deborah Delmer, associate director of food security for the Rockefeller Foundation in New York, May 11 at 7 p.m. in Room 103 of Rozanski Hall. She will discuss "Agriculture in Developing Nations: Challenges and Opportunities," A reception will follow the talk in the Rozanski Hall concourse.

ALL ABOUT BIRDS

The Ontario Veterinary College's Wild Bird Clinic and Avian/Exotics Clinic present "All About Birds" May 14 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. The day will offer a close-up look at the world of parrots, raptors and owls. Guest speakers are Michael Taylor of the Avian/Exotics Chnic. pathobiology professor Dale Smith, Mark Hagen of Rolf C. Hagen Inc. and Dianne Holloway, president of the Amazona Society. Cost is \$40 general, \$25 for students, until May 6, \$60 after. All proceeds go towards avian disease research and the avian internship and D.V.Sc. programs.

GUELPH INTERACTION RUNS APRIL 29, MAY 5

Guelph Interaction, an annual program designed to introduce U of G and the university experience to students in grades 10 and 11, runs April 29 and May 5. Between 600 and 800 students are expected to attend each day. Participants attend two sessions from about 40 offerings, which are led by U of G faculty, staff and students.

Art Centre Turns 25

Gallery is now home to more than 4,000 works of Canadian art



The Canadiana/Begging Bear sculpture in front of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre has become a favourite of II of G students PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

BY REBECCA KENDALL

HEN JUDITH NASBY began art at U of G in 1968, she was organizing exhibitions for the first floor of the MacKinnon Building. There was no formal gallery available, so she made the best out of the space she had.

At the time, Nasby was also a sessional instructor in design and art history, and as Guelph's fine art program grew, funding increased and the exhibition space moved to the first floor of the McLaughlin Library in 1973.

She and others involved in promoting art at Guelph began to imagine the possibility of having a proper art museum. By then, U of G's art collection had about 550 pieces, including The Drive by Group of Seven precursor Tom Thomson.

"We had no proper place to show it," says Nasby, who now teaches courses in museum studies and aboriginal art as an adjunct professor in the School of Fine Art and Music.

In 1980, thanks to the vision and co-operative efforts of U of G, the City of Guelph, Wellington County and the Upper Grand District School Board, the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre (MSAC), a non-profit charitable organization and public art gallery, was born. Nasby was named director and curator.

Without the multiple levels of support and sponsorship offered by the four partners, the gallery would not have been possible, she says.

Twenty-five years later, MSAC is marking its silver anniversary with the exhibition "Body Unbound: Works From the Collection," featur-

ing a selection of significant works by prominent Canadian artists from the past and present. It opened March 30 with a reception that drew 150 people and continues until July 10.

The art centre is a vital cultural component of the whole University, it's free and it's open for the community to see contemporary and historical art from across Canada," says Nasby of the three-level, seven-gallery facility located on the northeast corner of Gordon Street and College Avenue. "It's enriching not only for fine art students but also for all students, staff and faculty to see it as their art gallery."

MSAC curates 12 exhibitions a year and is particularly proud of its emerging artists series, says Nasby. The art centre also strives to engage the interest of a wide demographic with a variety of programs ranging from children's art lessons to lectures by visiting art critics, she says.

"I have a wonderful experienced staff of three full-time, two part-time and lots of student employees who allow us to accomplish a great deal."

Over the past quarter-century, MSAC's art collection has grown enormously, says Nasby. Between its collection and the University's. which is on permanent loan, the gallery is now home to more than 4,000 works representing 300 years of Canadian art.

Specialization is a key component of setting MSAC apart from other galleries, she says, and Inuit art has had a defining influence and presence. Some 700 drawings that represent Canadian Arctic communities have been put together in a unique collection, with pieces dating from 1960 to the present.

"It's the area we've been actively researching for almost 25 years, writing on and touring exhibitions around the world. It's been very satisfying to see how much we've been recognized internationally for Inuit

This fall. Nashy will travel to Bucharest and Buenos Aires to give lectures on the art centre's touring exhibitions of Inuit drawings and wall hangings.

Another unique feature of the art centre is the Donald Forster Sculpture Park, the largest sculpture park at a public art gallery in Canada. Home to the Canadiana/Begging Bear and the Mask installations, the park represents artists from Vancouver to Halifax and will welcome its 30th piece, created by Inuit artist William Noah, at an unveiling June 25 at 2:30 p.m. Two more pieces will be added this fall.

Bringing Canadian art to the community has been an important aspect of Nasby's work, but exchanging ideas and influences within a global context is another valuable role she aims to fill. Next month, she will fly to China to curate an exhibition of paintings by Chongqing artists for showing at MSAC in spring 2006. She's also on a speaking tour, giving lectures on Canadian public sculpture.

Nasby says bringing international artists and their work to the gallery provides the local community with a broader view of the world and global culture and makes important binks for the University and the city.

"I think we're helping to put Guelph on the map internationally through our exhibitions and pub-

people

Alyssa Lindsay, a fourth-year biological engineering student, is this year's recipient of the "Leaders for the Future" award from the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education. The award was presented at the annual conference of Engineers Without Borders (EWB) in Vancouver. Lindsay, who is president-internal of EWB Guelph, has also served as public outreach coordinator for the chapter and has initiated fundraising activities, inter-chapter dialogues and weekly educational events. Her efforts have helped transform the U of G chapter into one of Ontario's strongest.

OAC DAIRY CHALLENGE TEAM IS THE CREAM OF THE CROP

A four-member U of G team won the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge at Penn State University this month. The team, consisting of Jen Christie, Alison Besley, Mike MacLean and Mark Carson, defeated Virgina Tech, which has never lost in the competition's four-year history. The challenge involved 27 teams putting their textbook and practical knowledge to the test in analyzing dairies. Guelph's entry marked the first time a Canadian team has participated in the competition.

DINNER TO HONOUR PROF

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology is hosting a gettogether and dinner April 22 to recognize Prof. Neil MacKinnon, who retired in December after more than 32 years at the University. It begins at 6 p.m. at the Italian Canadian Club. Cost is \$40 for dinner and a gift. For tickets, call Dina Carter at Ext. 56526.

EVENT TO MARK CAMPUS MINISTER'S RETIREMENT

Rev. Ed Den Haan, who retires April 30 after 28 years with U of G's Campus Ministry and Multi-Faith Resource Team, will be honoured April 27 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Bullring. Everyone is welcome. To make a donation towards a gift, send e-mail to Barbara Cardow at bcardow@uoguelph.ca.

IN MEMORIAM

Brenda Merrill, a retired clerk in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, died March 7. She was employed at the University from 1974 to 2003. She is survived by one son, Dale; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held May 5 for retired zoology professor Peter Yodzis, who died March 28. It begins at 7 p.m. at the Arboretum

Judicial Officer Takes on Role of University's Legal Counsel

announced that judicial officer Mary Childs has accepted the role of legal counsel for the University, effective immediately.

This position change is part of an ongoing process of assessing and managing the Univer-

which have expanded in recent years because research and academic activities now often have additional statutory and contractual responsibilities, says Summerlee.

Childs, a law graduate of the University of position and take on a more active role in man-

PRESIDENT Alastair Summerlee has sity's risk management and legal services, Western Ontario, has been responsible for the aging U of G's day-to-day legal needs. appeals procedures and hearings on campus, co-ordinating legal matters and working with external solicitors and consultants. In her new post, she will continue the legal aspects of her

During this period of reorganization, Shari Dorr, co-ordinator of the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre, will assume responsibilities for the appeals procedures and hearings associated with the Judicial Office.

ENERGY TIP OF THE MONTH

F YOU HAVE entertainment systems or computer equipment, plug them into a power bar and turn it off when they're not in use to prevent "standhy power" usage. In the average home, standby power uses up to 600 kWh per year and means \$30 spent on nothing, year after



April 29/8 pm Opening Night! Henry Purcell's THE FAIRY QUEEN

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Organ & violin duets and solo May 1/8 pm

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> May 7/8 pm Veritas Piano Quartet Beethoven & Brahms

May 8/2 pm Duo Concertante Mother's Day Lunch & Concert

May 13/8 pm Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra with narrator R.H. Thomson Metamorphosis: From Myth to Music

May 14/8 pm Eve Egoyan, piano recital Works by Erik Satie, Karen Tanaka, José Evangelista, and others

May 15/8 pm Da Capo Chamber Choir; Leonard Enns, conductor World premiere by Leonard Enns (Noctarne) plus works by Ross Whimey, Eric Whitacre, Rodney Sharman, Clare Hopkans, and others

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OVC Prof Helps Uncover Most Ferocious Biter to Ever Live

Champion chomper probably wasn't the smartest link in the food chain

BY LORI BONA HUNT

N A FIRST-EVER STUDY, scientists from U of G and Australia dug into the fossil record to determine the mammal with the most powerful bite in the world. They also found that the bigger the brain, the wimpier the bite.

The findings of Prof. Jeff Thomason of the Department of Biomedical Sciences and researchers at the University of Sydney and University of Newcastle appeared in the prestigious British journal Proceedings of the Royal Society earlier this month.

Delving into previously unexplored territory, the scientists compared the bite force of 39 species of mammalian predators, both living and extinct. Their sample ranged from cougars, hyenas and badgers to lions, tigers and bears. Thylacoleo carnifex, a marsupial lion that roamed Australia during the Ice Age and has been extinct for about 40,000 years, emerged as the champion chomper.

"Pound for pound, it was the hardest-biting animal ever," says

Named for its cat-like appearance, the 200-pound marsupial lion had the most muscular jaws of any species and could bite with unrivalled force, the study determined. Related to the koala and the wombat, the animal had shearing teeth and sharp thumb-like claws.

This is the first time analyses of bite force have been made in such a wide species sampling. The researchers used a scientific model developed by Thomason to do the comparisons. It allows predictions of bite force to be made based on skull di-



Artist leanette Muirhead's rendering of the world's hardest-biting mammal.

mensions, making it possible to compare animals that lived thousands of years ago with those still roaming the Earth today.

"If an animal exists only through the fossil record, you obviously can't throw it a bone and see how it chews or observe it feeding in the wild," says Thomason. "Before now, people could only look at a fossil and say:

'Yes, it looks like it probably had a large bite."

Other animals with a strong bite include the African hunting dog, Tasmanian devil and clouded leopard. Predators with weaker bites include black, brown and Asiatic bears, the leopard and the coyote.

"Surprisingly, hyena bites also aren't as forceful as we imagined,"

says Thomason. "They can crunch through bone, but they don't have the strongest bite for their body

The study also found that carnivores with the largest brains had a smaller bite force. The theory is that brain volume impinges on available area for muscle development, reducing the power of the bite, he says. On average, the brains of marsupials are about 21/2 times smaller than those of other predatory species.

"So the marsupial lion could certainly bite, but it probably wasn't too bright.

Biting aside, the study had another significant purpose. "We were interested in what bite force could tell us about how an animal may have fed and the size of the prey it could take down," says Thomason.

For example, large animals such as bears are known to feed on smaller-sized prey, and the research showed that their bite is weaker than that of other predators. By contrast, the African hunting dog can take down beasts 10 times its own body weight, and it was shown to have a forceful bite.

Based on the findings, Thomason speculates that marsupial lions regularly preyed on animals twice their size. "It tells us they weren't feeding on opossums."

He adds that the study is important in paleontology because it shows that not only can bite force be calculated but also that estimates of bite force can be used to indicate what animals were eating and what their feeding patterns were.

Once you do that, you can start building the structure of communities in fossil samples."

Physicist Wins CAP Herzberg Medal

U of G prof recognized for studies of gravitational waves, black holes

BY ANDREW VOWLES

PROF. ERIC POISSON, Physics, has been named the 2005 winner of the Canadian Association of Physicists' (CAP) Herzberg Medal for his work on gravitational waves and black holes.

"It's pretty sweet - it's like a big Christmas gift you didn't expect,' says Poisson, who will receive the medal in June at CAP's annual awards banquet in Vancouver. Named in honour of Nobel Prize-winning chemist Gerhard Herzberg, the award recognizes outstanding research achievements of scientists aged 40 and younger (Poisson will turn 40 this July).

U of G physics professor Bernie Nickel won the award in 1981.

Poisson studies the physics of gravitational waves - ripples in the fabric of space and time that scientists believe are caused by violent

events in the distant universe such as collisions of black holes or shock waves from a supernova explosion.

His theoretical models predict the kinds of signals we might expect to pick up here on Earth from gravitational waves, whose existence was predicted by Albert Einstein in his general theory of relativity.

"There's a lot of interesting mathematics and physics that goes into deciding what's going on," Pois-

The U of G physicist's calculations will feed into research by scientists at huge gravitational wave detectors, including a team now refining the most sensitive instrument of its type in the United States.

Run by the California Institute of Technology and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory consists of twin instruments located at two sites about

2,000 miles apart in Louisiana and Washington state. Sensitive detectors at both locations have been designed to pick up the vanishingly small effects of these waves as they pass through the Earth. (Similar instruments are being built in Europe, Japan and Australia.)

Poisson says scientists are excited about what they might "see" through a kind of energy radically different from light, radio waves, X-rays or other forms of electromagnetic radiation. "Every time we've been able to look at the universe through another aspect of the electromagnetic spectrum, we've been able to detect new

Those "things" may include clues about the structure of the universe and may help test the theory of gravity as a curvature of space-time.

Poisson began studying gravitational waves as a post-doc at the California Institute of Technology. His recent studies include investigating "tides" raised on black holes by nearby objects, much as ocean tides result on Earth from the planet's interaction with the moon.

He joined U of G in 1995 and is an affiliate of Waterloo's Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics. He wrote about the mechanics of black holes in the textbook A Relativist's

Poisson was nominated for the medal by University of Waterloo physics chair Robert Mann and David Garfinkle, a physicist at Oakland University in Michigan. Mann, who has worked with Poisson through the Guelph-Waterloo Physics Institute, says his research on black holes has withstood the test of time.

Founded in 1945, CAP is a professional association representing more than 1,600 physicists and physics students in Canada, the United

Program Counsellor Gets an A+

BY REBECCA KENDALL

INDA ALLEN'S OFFICE is a busy one. As a program counsellor for the bachelor of science and bachelor of computing degree programs, Allen is a problem solver, a familiar role for this U of G mathematics graduate. She's been helping students solve their problems by providing academic advice since 1998, and clearly she's been doing it well. This month, she was named the 2005 recipient of the Excellence in Undergraduate Academic Advising Medallion.

She will be presented with the gold medallion, designed by lan Smith of the CBS dean's office, and a certificate in September. This is the second year for the award, which was created by the Council on Undergraduate Academic Advising.

Allen says she feels honoured to be recognized for her work, but she's the first to admit it's a job she doesn't do alone. "I depend very much on my colleagues. I share this award with them."

She says she particularly appreciates the guidance and support she's received over the years from Prof. Fred Ramprashad, associate dean of the B.Sc. program, who has advised students for more than 37 years.

"Fred has truly been my mentor. I have been fortunate to see first-hand the qualities needed to do this job well, including — most importantly — compassion."

Allen believes she brings a unique perspective to the table after being



Students laud Linda Allen for her approachability and willingness to listen.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

both a student at Guelph — she earned a B.Sc. and M.Sc. — and an instructor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. As a result, she understands the concerns students have about achieving their goals and the expectations professors have of their students, making her role as program counsellor a good fit, she says.

Students come to Allen seeking advice about a variety of academic situations, including course selection, dropping courses, declaring a minor and switching to a new major — sometimes more than once.

"Most students find their niche, although some take longer than others," she says. "Our B.Sc. program is flexible enough that students can postpone that decision until second year and still finish in four years."

She notes that many students deliberately take more than four years to graduate by reducing their course load so they can hold down a job or because they want to do better in their classes and enjoy them.

Allen says it's important for students to know there's someone they can talk to and a place where they can get the information they need to make sound decisions. With so many online resources like the undergraduate calendar, WebAdvisor, counselling office websites and the undergraduate academic information website, lots of information is readily available, but sometimes students need more, she says.

"Sometimes a student needs to talk to someone just to make things clear or to be reassured. I never mind doing that because I'd rather have students come to me in good time than be denied graduation because they don't have either enough courses or the right courses. I think that's every student's nightmare."

Allen's approachability and willingness to listen earned her top marks from the students who nominated her for the academic advising award.

"She is always willing to make time and genuinely wants to listen to anything I bring to her office, whether academic or personal, and not just because it is in the capacity of her job," wrote one student.

Said another: "She makes an effort to build a connection with all students who come for advice, and that connection is unique for each and every student."

Allen says she received some good advice early on from now-retired physics professor Bob Winkel, a program counsellor for more than 30 years. On a return visit to the University, he appeared at her door unannounced one day and told her that, in this role, she had the opportunity to smooth the way.

"I've really come to appreciate that statement," she says. "It's not that you can solve every problem for every student, and sometimes you have to give them news they don't necessarily want to hear, but what you can do is help them accept that and let them know what their options are."

Allen says she has met many "amazing" students over the years and has a real sense of fulfilment in her job. "I feel like I'm making a difference in students' lives — one person at a time. That's something we can all do."

Scientists Arm Against a Common Foe

Renewed funding enables CBS profs to continue their battle against bacterial infections in cystic fibrosis patients

BY ANDREW VOWLES

NE STRIPS AWAY the invader's armour. The other aims to disarm the foe. Profs. Rod Merrill and Joe Lam, Molecular and Cellular Biology, have received fresh research funding for separate but related projects designed to combat killer infections in people suffering from cystic fibrosis (CF).

CF is the most common fatal genetic disease affecting young Canadians. An estimated one in 2,500 people born in this country will develop the disease. One in every 25 Canadians carries a defective copy of the gene responsible for CF; a child of two people with the defective copy has a one-in-four chance of being born with the affliction.

Lam and Merrill both study Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a common microbe that normally poses no risk to healthy individuals. But in people whose immune systems have already been weakened by infection or burns or who suffer from diseases such as CF, the bacteria may become deadly pathogens.

Mucus buildup in the lungs of CF sufferers provides a perfect environment for these bacteria, says Merrill, a biochemist.

"An estimated 60 per cent of cystic fibrosis patients have chronic lung infections caused by *Pseudomouas*. It's the No. 1 killer of cystic fibrosis patients."

He and Lam are the only two Guelph faculty members to receive regular research funding from the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CCFF). Both saw the foundation renew their funding this year to continue their studies of aspects of the disease.

Merrill was awarded \$75,000 a year for three years by the foundation, which has supported his work since 1997. He was among the biochemists who moved to the College of Bio logical Science last year from the former Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

He's looking for ways to disable toxic compounds produced by P. aeruginosa that prevent cells from making proteins in CF patients. His main target is a particularly lethal bacterial poison called exotoxin A.

"It's one of the most potent toxins known," says Merrill, whose broader interests extend to toxins in bugs causing everything from diphtheria to whooping cough.

His lab has already developed peptidebased inhibitor molecules intended to prevent bacteria from gaining a foothold in the lungs.

"We're trying to block one of the tools used by the bacteria for infection," he says. "It's not going to be a cure for the infection, but it's one link in the network to treat these bacteria."

He's also used X-ray crystallography to look at the interaction of the toxin and the affected protein, called elongation factor II. By learning more about how the toxin works, he hopes glean information that will help drug companies develop acrosol products to protect against infection. He works with two American

pharmaceutical firms.

Recalling a high school friend's "sickly" brother who was afflicted with CF, Merrill says he studied bacterial infections during a post-doctoral stint. "I was just intrigued by the microscopic battles that are being waged among cells."

Widening the lens beyond specific microbial toxins, Lam, a microbiologist, hopes to find ways to prevent and treat Pseudomonas infection. Holder of the Canada Research Chair in Cystic Fibrosis and Microbial Glycobiology, has has received a two-year CCFF grant worth \$86,000 a year to continue one of two main projects.

Five years ago, his lab began investigating a short peptide made by a bacteriophage — a virus that attacks bacteria. He narrowed down the corresponding stretch of viral DNA responsible for making this protein, which prevents the *P. aeruginosa* bacterium from assembling its surface coat. Without that coat, the pathogen is effectively disabled.

Lam hopes to learn more about how the peptide works and how it might be used against the microbe. He's collaborating with Andy Kropinski of Queen's University, who is currently a visiting researcher in Lam's lab.

Earlier funding from CCFF and other agencies has enabled Lam to investigate various membrane proteins involved in assembling sugars on the pathogen's surface coat. He says studying the surface of *P. aeruginosa* is critical to learning how the bug infects the lungs or how it hides from the body's natural defences.

His lab holds four U.S. patents for pertinent proteins and genes. He's working with an American drug company on possible applications based on technology developed in his lab to screen for new drugs.

Lam has studied CF since his doctoral days at the University of Calgary, where his PhD supervisor had a son with the disease. Coincidentally, he had earlier worked with another Calgary researcher who now collaborates with Merrill. Originally from Alberta, Merrill studied chemistry at the University of Lethbridge.

Today they occupy offices and labs on separate floors of the new science complex. Although they have not worked directly together, they often discuss their respective research approaches, and they serve on advisory committees for one another's students.

Both agree that the recent CBS reorganization that gave rise to their new department along with construction of the complex— has made it easier for them to compare notes. Merrill still collaborates with chemists in his former department, including Prof. Adrian Schwan, whose synthesis of substrate for the toxin will help in high throughput screening for new inhibitors.

Referring to his work on the bacterial toxin, Merrill says: "We're trying to block the virulence factor, and Joe Lam is designing compounds to kill the organism."

Going From Grey to Green

Community development project adds colour to industrial Edinburgh Road North

BY SARAH FISCHER SPARK PROGRAM

OW THAT SPRING has finally arrived, look for new verdant patches in one of Guelph's major industrial areas.

Prof. Jim Taylor, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, is a member of a community-wide team that's leading the Edinburgh Road North Project, which aims to reclaim urban areas by planting native plant species. In this case, it's in the primarily industrial area near Edinburgh Road North, Willow Road and Shelldale Crescent.

The five-year initiative is one of numerous community development partnerships involving U of G, the City of Guelph, Guelph City Council, the Grand River Conservation Authority, local businesses and Trees for Guelph, a local not-for-profit organization dedicated to es-

tablishing green spaces in the Royal City's industrial areas. The partnerships are designed to engage Guelph residents in greening the developed areas of their local neighbourhoods.

"There are a lot of good people and organizations based on Edinburgh Road North who are involving local residents with the planning process," says Taylor. "And when the community becomes involved, the project stands a greater chance of success."

The Edinburgh Road North Project began after assessments of the Shelldale Crescent and Willow Road areas by U of G landscape architecture graduate students revealed a number of needs in the community.

During the first phase of the three-phase project, a student team directed by Taylor's colleague Prof. Cecelia Paine presented these findings at a community workshop, asking local residents what they believed were problems or issues in their own neighbourhoods. Residents named physical isolation from the rest of the city, lack of community activities and the need for environmental improvements among the most important issues in regenerating Edinburgh Road North.

"One of the most pressing concerns for the area is a need to be connected to the rest of the city," says Taylor. "Connectivity, which might be something as basic as sidewalk improvements, would allow for easier access to civic activities and services found in the centre of the city."

In the second phase of the project, he brought the workshop results to a committee of Guelph City Council, which recommended that budgets be realigned to facilitate improvements in the neighbourhood.

The third phase of the project involved a graduate studio in landscape architecture to develop detailed concepts for implementation. These plans were displayed at a community open house April 6.

Taylor is also working with Trees for Guelph to develop a prairie naturalization project on Edinburgh Road North, in which native plant species are planted to revitalize the environment. It's the latest greening project to be undertaken by Trees for Guelph, which has planted more than 70,000 trees around the city since it was established by Guelph citizens in 1990.

The Edinburgh Road North Project also offers educational opportunities for students of all ages, says Taylor. Guelph elementary school students participated in 2004's tree-planting programs throughout the city, and Trees for Guelph has collaborated with McNeil Consumer Healthcare to develop an educational CD for local high school students, designed to get them thinking about the ecological footprint.

"It's important to teach students

that our resources are finite and that we should use them wisely," says Taylor, a Trees for Guelph board member. "Through education, youth may discover an interest in urban reforestation initiatives such as those undertaken as part of the Edinburgh Road North Project."

He notes that community outreach projects developed by U of G landscape architects are a way of taking scientific knowledge and applying it in ways to better the community.

"Such projects also demonstrate how the University and the community can work together to improve our city," he says.

The Edinburgh Road North Project began in spring 2003 and is funded by Trees for Guelph, Guelph City Council and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The Grand River Conservation Authority donates most of the trees planted in Trees for Guelph projects.

Hands Across the World

New national network to provide co-ordinated front for veterinary students working abroad

BY BARRY GUNN, OVC

Canada have launched a new partnership to co-ordinate their efforts in promoting animal health and welfare, agricultural development and ecosystem health in developing countries.

Although individual Global Vets/Defi-Vet Monde programs have been a presence on university campuses since the mid-1990s, this year marks the beginning of a national network with a common mission. The network was launched earlier this year at the annual symposium of Students of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association.

"We're part of the future generation of health-care providers, so we're looking for opportunities in developing countries to become exposed to the animal health and socio-economic issues faced by these communities," says Mira Ziolo, a second-year student at the Ontario Veterinary College.

"Our experiences from these

travels will provide us with insights into these issues so that one day we'll be able to work with these communities to help them build toward a sustainable future," she says. "That knowledge and understanding will also help us become better vets working in Canada."

Global Vets began in 1994 with the formation of Défi-Vet Monde at the University of Montreal's veterinary college in Saint-Hyacinthe, Que. Students at OVC and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon soon followed suit, and the program has been growing ever since.

The students are mentored by faculty at their respective colleges and wil also receive guidance from members of Veterinarians Without Borders (VWB)/Vétérinaires sans frontières-Canada. VWB is already successfully established in several European countries, but VWB-Canada is a first for North America. Its mission is to build on work already being done by Canadian veterinarians in fostering the health of animals, people and the environment in developing countries.

Beginning in May, 11 second-year students from OVC — all women — will fan out across the globe in four teams, each spending six to eight weeks in their host country. The teams will work on projects in wildlife conservation, companion-animal medicine, farm-animal medicine and productivity research, zoonotic diseases and public education in Peru, South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

Althoughit may sound like an exotic way to spend the summer, the Global Vets program is not for everyone. Students are thoroughly screened to ensure they are fully aware of the personal and professional challenges of working in a developing country. A selection committee made up of faculty and Global Vets alumni evaluates their proposals and helps the selected teams create feasible projects.

"This is not a holiday," says Prof. Andrew Peregrine, Pathobiology, who shares faculty adviser duties with Profs. Dale Smith, Pathobiology, and David Waltner-Toews, Population Medicine. "It's faintensive learning program that involves working in different cultures and gaining an understanding of the dif-

ferent ways people manage farm animals, pets and wildlife."

Peregrine says students gain valuable experience working with species and studying diseases they might not otherwise see in Canada. Host organizations, which often have limited resources, benefit from the outside contact and having a few extra pairs of hands to share the workload.

Global Vets not only requires an extra level of commitment from students who are already extremely busy, but it also costs money. And each group is responsible for fundraising to cover expenses, as much as \$6,000 per person.

With a lot of hard work, this year's Global Vets group at OVC has managed to more than double contributions from sponsors, says Suzanne Chenard, part of a team headed for East Africa to work on small dairy farm projects with community and women's groups. Sponsors range from corporations like Intervet to 13-year-old Marnie Hale of Ferrus.

Hale got involved following the tsunami that struck Southeast Asia Dec. 26. Using her birthday party as a fundraiser, she invited classmates to make donations in lieu of gifts. In addition to \$150 for Global Vets, she was able to raise money for two humane societies and the World Wildlife Fund. Chenard and her Global Vets partner, Tereza Korbel, will be matching that donation, giving at least \$150 to one of the projects they are visiting.

"Sponsor support means a lot," says Chenard. "We were able to increase funding this year because we were able to show our sponsors where their money went. But at the end of the day, even if I have to pay for the whole trip out of my own pocket, I'm getting on that plane."



A Gentleman and a Scholar

National award caps distinguished career spent almost entirely at U of G

By Andrew Vowles

NA POST-WALKERTON WORLD, it may be difficult to imagine that only a few decades ago, scientists knew little about the pathogenic role of Escherichia coli. But that was the situation when Prof. Carlton Gyles, Pathobiology, began his studies of the bug at Guelph more than 35 years ago.

Indeed, he was among the first researchers to pinpoint how a toxin produced by E. coli—one similar to an enterotoxin made by cholera bacteria—could cause illness in pigs. More than three decades later, having traded his lab coat for suit and tie during a current stint as interim dean of the Ontario Veterinary College, he points to that early discovery as a formative point in an academic career spent almost entirely at Guelph.

His career, including that early finding and subsequent accomplishments, will be feted this summer by microbiologist colleagues when Gyles accepts a top research award from his Canadian peers. Around the same time, he will vacate the OVC corner office and begin preparing for retirement this summer — although, as his colleagues will likely attest, "retirement" will be an entirely relative term.

A self-confessed workaholic, Gyles says: "I'm looking forward to retirement. One of the beautiful things about retirement is that you don't have to worry about what you'll be doing."

Five years ago, the Guelph professor's lifelong work with E. coli earned him a measure of public recognition as an expert commentator on the Walkerton crisis. In spring 2000, a deadly strain of the bacteria entered the Ontario town's water system, killing seven people and leaving more than 2.500 others ill.

Following that disaster, Gyles was among several Guelph faculty who were consulted by media and health agencies. Recalling the incident today, he says: "So many things had to go wrong." Poorly sited wells were only the beginning. He ticks off compounding factors, including improper maintenance that allowed contamination by runoff, lax monitoring and communication of results and incompetent operators. Today,

he says the Walkerton experience "highlights the contribution that veterinary medicine can make to public health," from bacterial pathogens to SARS, West Nile virus and mad cow disease.

His work has focused generally on understanding how bacteria cause disease and especially on controlling the risk of contamination through food, water and human contact with animals. He's particularly interested in plasmids, DNA strands existing separately from bacterial chromosomes. It was Gyles's work that found these bits of genetic material could carry both the genes for enterotoxins, such as the one that makes E. coli pathogenic to pigs and cattle, and the genes conferring resistance to antibiotics.

Another key discovery was the role of another class of pathogenic *E. coli* that produces shiga toxins or verotoxins associated with animal diseases such as edema in pigs and important human food-borne illnesses. Gyles and his co-researchers were the first to sequence the toxin genes and purify the toxin itself.

"That was exciting," he says, explaining that the information could be used to develop vaccines against these diseases in pigs.

It was those and other achievements that earned him this year's Roche Diagnostics/CSM Award, considered the most prestigious prize of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists. In her nomination letter for her colleague, pathobiology professor Eva Nagy wrote that Gyles "has been widely recognized for his outstanding contributions to research on E. coli diseases."



Prof. Reggie Lo, Molecular and Cellular Biology, who chaired this year's CSM awards committee, describes Gyles as "a gentleman. You call someone a gentleman and a scholar, and that's Carlton Gyles."

The committee initially included Lo, his departmental colleague Prof. Cecil Forsberg and a third member from Alberta. With a Guelph candidate among seven nominees this year, Lo invited two other CSM members to serve on the committee. Still, he says, the five-person group was unanimous in selecting Gyles for the award.

(Three faculty members in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology have won the award previously: Prof. Chris Whitfield in 2003, Forsberg in 2000 and Prof. Terry Beveridge in 1994.)

Lo has never worked with Gyles but says his colleague enjoys an international reputation. "When people find out I'm from the University of Guelph, they ask me whether I know Carlton Gyles. He has represented Canada very well."

In a supporting letter for his nomination, Dr. James Brunton, director of the infectious diseases division of the University of Toronto's Department of Medicine, wrote: "I believe it is fair to say that Dr. Gyles stands among the top two or three veterinary bacteriologists in the world."

Gyles's nearly lifelong career here at Guelph began as an undergraduate student. He earned his DVM in 1964 — the year the University was established — before completing a master's degree in 1966 and, two years later, his PhD.

He had arrived from his native Jamaica in 1959 for what was then a five-year program. "I expected to go back to Jamaica to practise," he says. But by graduation, he found the idea of working in a large-animal practice less appealing — and probably too routine.

Although other islanders had enrolled at vet schools in the United States, he chose Canada because of its Commonwealth connection to his home. Guelph itself had been widely viewed as "one of the best places for getting a good undergraduate education in veterinary medicine," he says. "That's still true."

He ended up being the only Jamaican in his class of about 80 students, although a few classmates had arrived from overseas. (That wasn't his first taste of Canada. He'd visited in 1955 as a 15-year-old to attend a Scout Jamboree in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Mid-summer or not, he says, "What amazed me was that people would go into the water at those temperatures.")

Guelph's agricultural side would have resonated with Gyles as well. In Jamaica, he had boarded at Clarendon College, a high school with an agricultural focus. Years later, he remains involved with other Clarendon graduates through a Toronto alumni chapter. On the school's website, he's listed as head boy for 1957 and 1958; the list is headed by an inscription as follows: "Clarendon College bas been blessed with talented and dynamic student leaders whose leadership abilities were recognized in their formative years as evidence of contributions to society in their later life."

After completing his PhD, Gyles did post-doctoral work in England and Denmark before returning to OVC in 1969. From 1981 to 1986, he was Guelph's dean of graduate studies; later he chaired his department. He's a founding member of the Canadian Research Institute for Food Safety at U of G and associate program leader of the Canadian Research

Network on Bacterial Pathogens of Swine.

Further afield, he helped teach at the then-fledgling school of veterinary medicine at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad in 1991. That's where he met his wife, Jennifer Ogeer-Gyles. Having done her DVM at Guelph in 1995, she will complete a master's degree in clinical studies this spring; she's studying antimicrobial resistance in *E. coli* from dogs.

Gyles will serve as interim dean until the arrival of incoming OVC dean Elizabeth Stone June 1. (He'll actually serve a few weeks longer as Stone attends a conference within days of her arrival.) Then he'll head back to his lab until retirement in August.

With that date imminent, he recalls the husband-and-wife advisers he had during his post-doc in Denmark, who offered not just scientific training but also lessons about balancing life inside and outside the lab—lessons he had trouble absorbing.

"Science can be addictive. Pretty soon it leads you rather than you managing it."

He moved to Cambridge in 1998, partly to distance himself physically from work. "In Guelph, I was in the lab all the time." He pauses to consider the result of his move before allowing, ruefully, that "it didn't help too much."

There's always hope, not to mention that long-deferred stack of works by Canadian writers he plans to explore, including writers with Caribbean roots such as Austin Clarke.



after hours

Event to Mark Centenary of Albert Einstein's 'Miracle Year'

University community invited to share ideas about

U of G's single greatest research or scholarly contribution

BY ANDREW VOWLES

LBERT EINSTEIN made a difference in the world. What difference is the University making?

U of G will hold an event next month to reflect on its research and scholarly contributions to society and to celebrate the centenary of Einstein's so-called "miracle year." The May 2 gathering will include a public talk by Gilles Paquet, president of the Royal Society of Canada, on "Einstein as a Reframer: The Relevance of Einstein Today."

Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research), will begin the event by sharing results of a "greatest hits" challenge designed to invite comment from faculty, staff and students about the University's broader societal impact.

The event, called "Research @ Guelph: A Reason to Reflect and Celebrate," begins at 3 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. A reception will follow in the lower lounge.

Hoping to stimulate reflection and discussion about *U* of *G*'s broader societal role before the event, Wildeman is inviting community members to share ideas prompted by the following question: "What single discovery or creation or outcome from work in any discipline — arts, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences or physical sciences — undertaken at *U* of *G* or its predecessor colleges has had the greatest impact on society anywhere around the world?"

Sharing the subsequent "greatest hits" collection during an event cele-

brating Einstein's annus mirabilis will give the U of G community "an opportunity to uncover all the ways in which the creativity of Guelph's minds has made a difference where a difference where a difference has really mattered," says Wildeman. He hopes the event will underline pride in the Guelph community and an appreciation of the University's diverse contributions.

"People see themselves as citizens in a broader community, and Guelph has a long tradition of doing work that can be translated into real-life applications," says Wildeman, who is also inviting area high school students to the event. "A number of people — faculty, alumni, business people and others — have asked me what our single greatest outcome has been for the world. I'm sure there are many answers to that question."

He draws a parallel between applications of University research and the life of Einstein, whose contributions span not just science but also humanitarian endeavours. In 1905, Einstein, then 26, published five landmark papers, including his theories of special relativity and the photoelectric effect, in which he described light as packets of energy that behaved like particles.

"To me, the Einstein annus mirabilis is an occasion to reflect and an opportunity to use reflection as inspiration for the future," says Wildeman

To share your ideas about Guelph's single greatest research or scholarly contribution, send e-mail to GreatestHits@uoguelph.ca.

KEN KUDO

Electrical designer in the Planning, Engineering and Construction Department of Physical Resources since 1989

Ken Kudo has been competing in triathlons, a sport that fuses swimming, biking and running, since a co-worker got him hooked in 1989. At first, he was just doing a bit of running and swimming, but this quickly went from something he did to keep fit to something he wanted to do competitively. He started with



en Kudo

short-distance races and slowly built a base of endurance to handle longer events.

In 1998, Kudo participated in Hawaii's famous

In 1998, Kudo participated in Hawaii's famous Ironman World Championship, the oldest and most prestigious triathlon. Starting with a 3.8-kilometre swim, followed by a 180-km cycle and 42-km run, he finished the race in just under 11½ hours.

He notes that Guelph is a great place to be a triathlete because there are half a dozen annual races within an hour's drive as well as two at Guelph Lake.

Currently, Kudo is taking a break from triathlons and has his sights set on faster events. This summer, he plans to join the masters track-and-field circuit and compete in the 100- and 200-metre sprints.

He says it takes less time to train for sprinting, and that's just fine with him because his wife, Nicole, who works in the Department of Clinical Studies, plans to compete in a few local triathlons this summer and they are new parents.

Being active has more meaning now, says Kudo. "I'd like our daughter, Alexandra, to realize that when Mom and Dad go out and exercise, it's part of the daily routine. More importantly, we hope to be setting a good example."

MIKE DIXON

Chair of the Department of Environmental Biology, faculty member at U of G since 1985

There are lots of things to discover when you're at Florida's Kennedy Space Center, but golf isn't usually one of them. For Prof. Mike Dixon, however, a sabbatical at the centre a few years ago gave him a chance to try out the links in the Everglade State.

After three years of playing, he admits he still isn't on a par with his wife, who regularly wins when

they're out on the course. Although his schedule is hectic, he says he's gearing up for another season and will likely be teeing off twice a month. He has discovered a small local private course he's particularly fond of.

Dixon is also a member and co-convenor of An Quaich, a nationwide single-malt whisky appreciation

society. He was introduced to the organization 10 years ago and now co-ordinates everything from small informal Scotch tastings to more formal events for its Guelph membership.

"The net result has been that, over the past decade, I've accumulated more than 200 single-malt whiskies in my personal Scotch bar," he says.

He notes that although Canadians, Americans and many other cultures have their own versions of whisky, there are distinct differences. True Scotch is the product of malted barley and must be kept in a barrel in Scotland for at least three years.

Dixon is currently looking forward to attending a week-long conference next month in Belgium. His job requires a fair amount of travel, and he says he likes to take time to explore the places he visits. While in Belgium, he plans to visit and photograph some of the sites of the First World War.

RACHEL TUDOR

Fourth-year student in English

Music is a big part of Rachel Tudor's life. She listens to it on her way to school, while she's studying and when she's going to sleep. "The more I listen to it, the more I love it," she says.

Recently, she's been experimenting with software and learning to mix and produce music on her computer, and she loves sam-



Rachel Tudor

pling hip-hop beats. Some of her creations make their way to the CDs she compiles for her friends.

Tudor says her background as an English student makes her appreciation of music stronger and her understanding of lyrics deeper.

"Music is one thing that brings the world together," she says. "I'm especially drawn to hip hop because the writing is so clever."

Her love of urban music may be at the centre of some possible graduate work, she adds.

Another important part of Tudor's life is camping. She spent six summers as a camp counsellor, working with children with special needs, and more recently worked for a company booking accommodations for campers. Her favourite areas to camp include Georgian Bay and Algonquin Park.

Through her work in customer service and campsite booking, she's learned that the most requested hot spots for outdoorsy types in Ontario include Awenda Provincial Park near Penetanguishene, Prince Edward County's Sandbanks Provincial Park and Killbear Provincial Park outside Parry Sound.

"They're incredibly popular," she says. "The landscape in Ontario is really so diverse."

Tudor notes that camping offers her a much-needed break from her typically urban lifestyle. "It's a whole different pace of life and a different kind of vacation."



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Putting the Wheels in Motion

After losing a leg, athlete steers her life in new directions

BY LORI BONA HUNT

ATHLETICS HAS ALWAYS BEEN a part of Mitzi Hepburn's life. Growing up in Wiarton, she was a figure skater, ran track and played high school basketball. She came to U of G with her sights set on being a physical therapist, choosing human kinetics and sports injury management as her major.

"But I always said I wasn't going to teach people to walk after accidents because it would be too depressing," the 21-year-old says. "That came back to bite me."

In July 2003, after her first year at Guelph, Hepburn lost her left leg following a motorcycle-car accident. She had been out to dinner with her father, Brent, a firefighter in their hometown, and some of his colleagues. They were all riding home from Owen Sound on motorcycles when a car sideswiped the bike that Hepburn and her father were riding.

The impact crushed both of their left legs and threw the pair more than 30 metres. They landed in ditches on opposite sides of the road. The driver of the car fled the scene.

"I don't remember a lot about the acident, except calling for my dad and hearing him call for me," says Hepburn. "I do remember sitting up and seeing bone; my leg was pretty much off. So when I woke up in the hospital and my leg was gone, I wasn't too surprised."

Doctors had amputated her left leg at the thigh and her dad's just below the knee.

"I'm an only child and have always been close to my parents, especially my dad," she says. "I was 'Daddy's little girl' for sure. But now we're even closer than before."

The pair spent weeks in the hospital, then months going through re-



Mitzi Hepburn says joining the Burlington Vipers wheelchair basketball team has helped her put things in perspective after the accident that cost her a leg.

PHOTO BY NATHAN DENETTE, GUELPH MERCURY

habilitation.

"Initially, we were both in a lot of pain and had to help each other deal with it," she says, adding that both she and her father also had severely fractured left arms. In addition, her father required extensive skin grafts.

"My mom, who's a nurse, was awesome about everything," says Hepburn. "But my dad and I figured out ways to help each other that even my mom, with all the training she's had, says she never would have thought of."

Hepburn returned to U of G in May 2004 after 10 months of recovery and rehabilitation.

"Having been here first as an able-bodied student, then coming back as a disabled student, I definitely noticed things I'd never noticed before, like how sidewalks aren't even. The entire place also seemed so much bigger."

She wears a prosthetic leg and uses a cane to get around campus.

"I'm still very self-conscious about my prosthetic, but for the most part, I can get around without a lot of people noticing. They can see that I use a cane, but because I'm involved in sports, a lot of people assume I have a sports injury."

It was coming back to university that got Hepburn back on track with both her career plans and athletics. During Accessibility Awareness Week on campus, she met a woman who played for the Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association.

"I was looking to get involved in something," she says. "I didn't want to become too sedentary after the accident. I'm a fidgety person."

She ended up joining the Burlington Vipers team in 2004.

Earlier this month, she competed in the Canadian Wheelchair Basket-ball Association's junior national basketball tournament, Junior teams are made up of players under age 22. Hepburn's team placed fourth, losing the bronze medal by two points to Saskatchewan.

"Playing on the team has been really fun, and it has helped me put things in perspective," she says.

Her teammates have a variety of disabilities, ranging from spina bifida and cerebral palsy to spinal cord injuries.

"After my accident, initially I was really discouraged about the things I

couldn't do. Being on the team has really helped."

Even though she played basketball in high school, Hepburn says it's an entirely different game when you're in a wheelchair.

"I was a runner, so all my power came from my legs. I had to build up a lot of upper-body strength to play from a chair. Shooting is also a lot harder — in fact, I still can't shoot."

Hepburn juggled basketball practices and games around her schedule as a trainer with the University's varsity rugby and volleyball teams, which she did as part of the human kinetics program. She attended games and helped the athletes with stretching and taping.

Most recently, she has become involved in Wheels in Motion, the major fundraising initiative of the Rick Hansen Foundation. Events are held in hundreds of communities across Canada, with people walking, rolling, wheeling or running to raise money for and awareness of spinal cord injuries. Guelph's event is scheduled for tune 12 at the Mitchell Athletics Centre, and Hepburn is the volunteer co-ordinator.

She was encouraged to get involved by Barry Wheeler, her adviser at the Centre for Students With Disabilities, who also helps organize the event. "She is an inspiration to other students with disabilities," Wheeler says.

Hepburn also plans to take up running again and is looking into getting a new prosthetic leg that will allowher a full range of motion. "I'm so much more aware of what's out there now, what options I have."

In fact, that new insight has helped her refocus her career plans.

"I want to become a certified athletic therapist. I want to work with athletes who have disabilities."

McLean Is Ambassador

Program raises awareness about spinal cord injuries

Centre, has been selected to take part in the Rick Hansen Foundation's national Ambassador Program to raise awareness about living with spinal cord injuries.

McLean, a former marathon runner and elite-level athlete who suffered a fall in 2003 and is now paraplegic, will speak to community agencies, schools and other local organizations and clubs as an ambassador. She will share her experiences and challenges, promote education and research and encourage involvement in Wheels in Motion fundraising events.

"I hope to use my experience to reach out to others and to educate people about prevention, the need for research and the challenges of living with a spinal cord injury," she says. "Most people think a spinal cord injury means you sit in a chair and that's the end of it. It's only the

beginning.'

About 84 per cent of spinal cord injuries happen to people under 34, so health care and equipment over a lifetime can cost millions of dollars. says McLean.

She also stresses the importance of research, pointing out that about 90 per cent of what is known about spinal cord injuries has been discovered in the past decade.

The Rick Hansen Foundation was created in 1988 by the Canadian Olympic wheelchair marathon champion who wheelch 40,000 kilometres to raise money for research and services. The foundation brings together researchers, service providers and people with spinal cord injuries. One of its main fundraisers is Wheels in Motion; Guelph's event runs June 12 at the Mitchell Athletics Centre.

To arrange a free speaking engagement with McLean, call 836-1812, Ext. 35.

Susanne Sprowl Community Service Award Call for Nominations Deadline for submissions, May 1, 2005

Susanne Sprowl was a 20-year staft employee of the University of Guelph, who used her tolents to make the workplace more than a job. She volunteered for many activities both on and off campus. Susanne enriched the lives of all who knew her. There are other sloff members, at the University of Guelph, who create a sense of Iamily and community. This award, in Sue's memory, is dedicated to soying thanks to those who give their time so generously to others.



A cheque for \$500° and a certificate will be presented to this year's recipient by the President, Steelworkers Lacal 4120, at the University of Guelph Cammunity BBQ, in July.

Eligibility: Active members, in good standing, of Steelworkers Local 4120, who have made significant contribution(s) to the betterment of the University of Guelph and the external Community through their "community spirit" and dedication to volunteer (unpaid) activities, events, and organizations. The Current Members of Steelworkers Awards Committee and Executive are <u>not</u> eligible for consideration for, a minimum, of 12 months <u>offer</u> leoving their Steelworkers Executive and/or Awards Committee positions.

Namination Pracess: Just send an E-mail message, tax or drop by the office with your nomination including the name of the person nominated, their deportment(s) and a brief supporting statement with the contact information (e-mail or phone numbers) and signatures of the three nominators.



Please submit naminations to the Susanne Sprowl Community Service Award, Steetworkers Lacal 4120, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON N1G 2W1 or via tax to 519-767-6660 or e-mail to recognition@uswa4120.ca.
**This award is graphe income.

New Elora Barn Hosts Open House

NEW BEEF FEEOLOT BARN at the Elora Research Station is helping a U of G professor in his quest to find a genetic combination for beef cattle that will produce better-tasting meat and make life easier for farmers. The community will have a chance to tour the facility April 26 during an open house from I to 4 p.m.

The 22,464-square-foot barn is unique in Canada, says Prof. Steve Miller, Animal and Poultry Science. It includes a feedlot that can monitor feed intake of nearly 200 cattle and a handling unit for ultrasound,

blood testing and body composition

"The goal is to build a better beef market," says Miller, adding that Canada's beef industry contributes about \$20 billion annually to the economy. "This barn is a tool to help farmers do just that."

The "tool" includes equipment valued at more than \$2 million that is being used to develop unprecedented breeding programs to improve both production efficiency and meat quality. It's the first time such equipment has existed in one facility.

Out of the Vaults and on to the Web

Continued from page 1

through the archives and decide what to present online.

"Objects of major importance to Canada's national heritage are buried in vaults that nobody has looked at for a very long time," says Griffin. "We're proposing the digitization of these objects for the purposes of long-term preservation, as well as to provide a curatorial component to various educational materials that will have the Internet reach. It's very exciting."

Fischlin's expertise will be applied to Stratford's archives, along with input from a group at the University, to prepare the context for teaching modules.

In return, a team from Stratford will create the framework to present the content in a format that will be useful to the target audience — teachers and students — by providing access to the Festival's archival and performance resources. This will allow the new hybrid site to bring together analytical, historical and performance materials in an integrated teaching site and virtual learning commons.

Fischlin says there is also potential for U of G to create international distance education courses through the site, as well as educational games for students of all ages.

"People will be able to access the site and play these games and not necessarily know that they're receiving advanced literacy skills based on Shakespearean vocabulary and contexts," he says.

A prototype of the site is expected to be up and running by the end of



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a 550 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore, to be held in June. Anyone who submits the right answer by April 22 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r. kendall@exec..uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56982. The following people correctly reported that the April 6 photo was taken at the front of Massey Hall: John Van Manen, Stephen Gazzola, Wayne Aitken and Fran Kitchen.

Student Eyes Custom-Built Diets

Continued from page 1

management regulatory agency, where she helped analyze the registration process for low-risk pesticides. During another placement, she conducted soil toxicity tests at Stantec, an environmental engineering firm, and presented results at a national conference on aquatic toxicity.

Schneider's interest in environmental issues was sparked during the Shad Valley Program she attended while in high school in Oakville. Here in Guelph, she also served as an intern for the Ignatius Farm CSA, a shared farming co-operative based at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre of Guelph. She hopes to eventually work in sustainable agriculture here or abroad.

Eny, now completing her undergraduate degree in applied nutrition, will begin a combined dietetic internship-master of science program through St. Michael's Hospital and the University of Toronto in the fall. She's interested in learning more about interactions among genes and metabolism and nutrition, information that may eventually see one-size-fits-all diets replaced by nutrition programs tailored to individuals.

Investigating the genetic basis for individual responses to diet is the theme of research by Eny's prospective master's supervisor in Toronto, Ahmed El-Sohemy, holder of a Canada Research Chair in Nutrigenomics. Working with him last year, she studied the genetics of rheumatoid arthritis and lupus and links between disease susceptibility and nutrition.

Earlier, she worked at the Hospital for Sick Children, collaborating on a study of the effects of folate and vitamin B12 on cognition in elderly patients.

In 2003, Eny won a scholarship from the Heart and Stroke Foundation to study regional variations in rates of cardiovascular disease and the distribution of fast-food outlets in Ontario. That work occurred at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Studies at Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre in Toronto.

While at high school in Thornhill, Eny was chosen for the SciTech program, a summer research camp for gifted students at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. There, she studied sedentary lifestyles and barriers to physical activity.

Allowing that she and her Guelph roommates could probably practise more of what she preaches, Eny confesses: "I'm the one who buys the chips"





CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Mallard Sprinter trailer, 35 feet, queen-size bed, sleeps five, air, awning, full-size bathroom, deck, Bell Express Vu system, situated in Port Elgin at New Fairway Park, trailer can be hauled, excellent condition, Ext. 56348 or 766-9012.

Antique Eastlake sideboard, original hardware, dovetailing, solid, great condition, Michael, mbrunt@ uoguelph.ca.

Motorola in-car phone; Brother MFC 7000FC all-in-one printer, copier, fax machine, telephone and answering machine; set of women's golf clubs, graphite shafts, golf bag, 836-0461.

BlackBerry 7750, Bell Mobilityready, features include e-mail, web, phone, organizer, all accessories, you connect service, Ext. 54585 or brwilson@uoguelph.ca.

Jaguar sewing machine, 11 stitch settings, never used; SoftLaser portable light therapy unit, improves skin texture, includes video, never used,

Yamaha bass guitar, model BBG4SII, excellent condition, metallic blue, Fender practice amp, soft case, Will or Linda, 821-6589.

Tweed green couch with lots of throw pillows, white computer desk, biochemistry textbook, coffee maker, pots and pans, dishes, wineglasses, toaster oven and other household items, everything in good condition, Nicole, 416-318-5198 or ncolapin@uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom townhouse at 240 London Rd., appliances, central vac, water softener, ceiling fans, blinds, walkout to patio with fenced yard, two baths, large storage space, laundry room, professionally finished basement, Marilyn, Ext. 56753 or 829-3130 after 5 pm.

Hardwood double bed with mattress, mirror and drawers; lkea computer desk, good condition; Ikea kitchen table, 30" x 30"; hardwood TV stand on wheels, storage underneath; 1991 Honda Civic, still runs but best for parts, 826-9505.

Old-fashioned gumball machine on red stand, with key; Deilcraft wooden entertainment unit, cherry finish, 771/2" by 30", top three shelves with drawers, bottom storage with doors; office or student desk, grey wood with keyboard tray, 60" by 30", 836-4392.

Panasonic PV-GS15 video camera, one-year warranty, ysavoret@ uoguelph.ca.

Sofa and matching loveseat, floral print, good condition; white 18-cubic-foot Kenmore refrigerator, very good condition; dining room table and four cushioned chairs; pull-down blinds, venetian blinds and sheers, 822-0786.

FOR RENT

Three-bedroom cottage on Lake Huron near Tobermory, fully equipped, \$1,400 a week, 856-4786.

Cottage on Georgian Bay island, great swimming, fishing and sailing, spectacular view, quiet and peaceful, Ken, 822-7705 evenings.

Three-bedroom lakefront cottage on Lake Simcoe with additional three-bedroom cottage, suitable for two families, four-piece baths, dishwasher, washer/dryer, canoe, \$1,500 a week for July and August, \$1,200 a week for June and September, 519-993-5590.

One-bedroom apartment in house, new kitchen, water softener, mature third-year or graduate student preferred, non-smokers, no pets, \$700 a month inclusive, first and last months' rent required, 827-1090.

One-bedroom apartment plus den, central location, suitable for professional person, non-smokers, no pets, available May 1, \$730 a month inclusive, 826-0337.

Large basement apartment, 750 square feet, all new flooring, close to shopping plaza and bus stop, parking for one vehicle, non-smoker, no pets, \$675 a month inclusive, first and last months' rent required, 827-5339

Two bedrooms for summer sublet in Edinburgh Road apartment, large kitchen, two baths, laundry, available May 1 to Aug. 31, \$375 a month inclusive, Danielle, 824-0022, Ext. 72174 or dglanc@uoguelph.ca.

One-bedroom ground-level apartment in home in south end, private entrance, suitable for professional, mature student or retired person, no stairs, parking for one car, non-smoker, no pets, \$675 a month

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Loft studio apartment downtown, available in September, \$750 a month inclusive, 821-7419 or lreid@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished three-bedroom, 2,000square-foot house in south end, gas, central air, two-car garage, fenced vard, on bus route, available mid-May, Beren, berenrob@uoguelph.ca.

Short- or longer-term accommodation: furnished two-bedroom condo in Phoenix Mill, available June 1, \$1,600 a month inclusive: furnished one-bedroom apartment in south end, available May 1, \$795 inclusive, intelrent@hotmail.com or 823-1857.

WANTED

Ride from Guelph to Cambridge Monday to Friday, arrive at 8 a.m. and leave about 4:30 p.m., will pay for gas, mattylance@hotmail.com.

House for rent for professor and family from September 2005, nonsmokers, no pets, or will swap for two-bedroom flat in central London, England, 44-207-6401025 arjande@yahoo.co.uk

AVAILABLE

Two free tickets to performance of Da Capo Chamber Choir May 15 at 8 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church, Ext. 58176 or mic@physics.uoguelph.ca.

Memberships in Ignatius Organic Farm CSA for 2005 growing season, local organic fresh vegetables, 824-1250, Ext. 245.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

"Bird Sounds" is the theme of a workshop with Richard Tofflemire May 25 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$55. The deadline for registration and payment is May 11. Call Ext. 52358.

Naturalist Chris Earley leads a workshop on sparrows May 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are due May 13.

Justin Peter presents a workshop on housing cavity-nesting birds May 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$45. The deadline for registration and payment is May 13.

CONFERENCE

An interdisciplinary conference celchrating the 20th anniversary of the publication of Zenon Pylyshyn's landmark work on the foundations of cognitive science, Computation and Cognition Toward a Foundation for Cognitive Science, runs April 29 to May 1 in Rozanski Hall. Pylyshyn, a Canadian researcher and professor of cognitive science at Rutgers University, will give the opening remarks. For more information and to register, visit the conference website at http://zencon.ca.

NOTICES

The Guelph-Waterloo Centre for Graduate Work in Chemistry and Biochemistry (GWC)¹ holds its annual meeting, seminar, graduate student poster session and awards presentation April 29 at U of G. The annual meeting for (GWC)¹ members begins at I p.m. in Thornbrough 1200. At 3 p.m., the public is invited to hear John Honek of the University of Waterloo discuss "Adventures in Biochemistry: A Chemist's Exploration of Biological Systems." The poster session for

(GWC)² members begins at 4 p.m. in UC 442, to be followed by the awards ceremony and a reception.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada is hosting a colloquium on collaborative research for development June 6 and 7 in Ottawa. The theme is "Highlighting the Impacts of North-South Research Collaboration Among Canadian and Southern Higher Education Partners." Registration deadline is May 9. For more information and registration forms, visit www.aucc.ca/programs/colloquium_c.html.

THEATRE

Banner Theatre, Britain's oldest social action theatre company, will present Wild Geese, a "video ballad" based on the experiences of refugees and migrants forced from their homelands, May 5 at 8 p.m. at the George Luscombe Theatre. In addition, singer/songwriter Maria Dunn will present Troublemakers, an actuality-based multimedia show about Canadian activist history. Tickets are \$15 general, \$10 for students and the un(der)waged. To reserve tickets, call Ext. 53147.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Napoleon Kurantin, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program (School of Rural Planning and Development), is April 22 at 9 a.m. in Landscape Architecture 143. The thesis is "Enhancing the Process of Socioeconomic Growth and Development A Modified Framework to the Classical Economic Reform Model — Structural Adjustment Programs." The adviser is Prof. Don Reid.

The final examination of PhD candidate Deborah Miller, Department of

Psychology, is April 22 at 10 a.m. in UC 103. The thesis is "An Examination of Employees' Fairness Perceptions and Reactions Toward Changing Retirement Policies." The adviser is Prof. Serge Desmarais.

The final examination of Rob Falconer, a PhD candidate in the Department of History, is April 25 at 10 a.m. in Johnston 104. The thesis is "Community, Conflict and Control: The Burgh of Aberdeen, c. 1542–1603." The adviser is Prof. Elizabeth Ewan.

The final examination of Eva Gonon, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Chemistry, is April 26 at 1:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 222. The thesis is "The Role of SNARE-Mediated Vesicular Membrane Traffic in Focal Adhesion Formation During Cell Spreading." The adviser is Prof. Marc Coppolino.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Chung Wei Tan, Integrative Biology, is April 26 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Towards a DNA Vaccine Against Salmonid Cryptobiosis." The adviser is Prof. Patrick Woo.

The final examination of Vivian Abdelmseeh, a PhD candidate in the School of Engineering, is April 27 at 9 a.m. in Thornbrough 1360. The thesis is "Sulphide and Sulphate Corrosion of Reinforced Concrete in Livestock Buildings." The adviser is Prof. Medhat Moussa.

The final examination of Kathryn Peiman, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is April 27 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "The Causes and Consequences of Heterospecific Aggression in Brook Stickleback (Culaea inconstans)." The adviser is Prof. Beren Robinson

The final examination of Petar Duspara, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Chemistry, is April 28 at 9:30 a.m. in MacNaughton 318. The thesis is "New Investigations Into the Peri Directed Lithiation and N-Acylimine Chemistry of 1-Naphthamide Derivatives." The adviser is Prof. Adrian Schwan.

The final examination of Andrea Spooner, a PhD candidate in the Department of Psychology, is May 5 at 3 p.m. in MacKinnon 311. The thesis is "Hidden Shyness: Child, Parent and Measurement Variables That Allow Children's Shyness to Go Undetected." The adviser is Prof. Mary Ann Evans.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Concert Band and its Swing Band present a fundraising dinner, dance and silent auction called "And All That Jazz!" May 14 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Ramada Inn. The evening will also feature a cake auction and swing dance lesson. Special guest vocalist is Heather Bambrick. For ticket information and reservations, call 763-3000.

Perimeter Institute's public lecture series continues May 4 with a panel discussion on "Einstein — Relativity and Beyond." It begins at 7 p.m. at Waterloo Collegiate Institute, 300 Hazel St. in Waterloo. Admission is free, but tickets are required by calling 883-4480 or visiting www. perimeterinstitute.ca.

The Guelph Arts Council's annual series of historical walking tours kicks off April 24 with "Where Guelph Began." It leaves from the Guelph Civic Museum at 2 p.m. For more details, call 836-3280.

At the April 26 meeting of the Federation of University Women/Guelph, the guest speaker is Susan Brown,

chair of the board of the Elora Festival Singers. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre.

The Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots speaker series presents Leslie Work of the Backyard Ark discussing "Plants for Wildlife... Plant for Life!" May 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 122 Harris St.

Guelph-Wellington Women-in-Crisis offers a free workshop titled "Exploring Intimacy After Sexual Assault" April 28 at 6 p.m. at the Sexual Assault Centre, 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 823-5806, Ext. 33.

The Guelph Jazz Festival presents Sundar Viswanathan and the International Drone Bandits May 3 at 8:30 p.m. at The Bookshelf ebar. Tickets will be available at the door. For more information, visit www. guelphjazzfestival.com.

The College Women's Club holds its annual general meeting and spring luncheon May 10 at noon at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. For tickets, call 836-2113.

The next meeting of the Wellington County branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society is April 26 at 7:30 p.m. at 125 Harris St. Guest speaker is Murray Miles of the Family History Library in Kitchener.

The finals of the Guelph Symphony Orchestra's annual concerto competition will run April 30 from 9 a.m. to noon in MacKinnon 107.

The Elora Community Theatre presents Funeral Farce, written and directed by retired U of G engineering professor Keith Slater, April 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 at 8 p.m. and April 24 at 2 p.m. For tickets, call 843-1314.

Find U of G's Cornerstone

Fundraiser says people are University's strongest support

BY MARY DICKIESON

F YOU SEE PATRICK ABDUL wandering around the building where you work, don't worry. He's just checking out the cornerstone.

Abdul works in one of the oldest buildings on campus — Alumni House — but it doesn't have the University's most prominent corner-stone. That honour belongs to a foundation that really isn't a stone at all. According to Abdul and his colleagues in Alumni Affairs and Development (AA&D), you and 1 and all the people we work with make up the University's cornerstone strength.

As assistant manager of U of G's annual giving program, Abdul is helping to launch a new Cornerstone Fund in AA&D that will give the University family a new option for charitable giving. For the first time ever, the campus community will be able to channel donations directly into the University's operating budget.

Joanne Shoveller, vice-president (alumni affairs and development), says the Cornerstone Fund was developed in part because of employee concerns about Guelph's current financial challenge.

"In the wake of unfulfilled government commitments, many people are looking for a way to provide direct support for the University's operating budget," she says.

The Cornerstone Fund is available to Guelph's immediate family: faculty, administrators, professional and support staff, and retirees.

By generating additional operating revenue, the fund will help U of G maintain its ongoing fiscal responsibilities in the areas of staffing development, infrastructure development, student access and other aspects of University operations, she says.

AA&D will build on the cornerstone analogy to bring new strength to its ongoing fundraising program in the campus community. The Cornerstone Appeal is being launched to encourage faculty, staff and retiree giving in 2005/2006 and will run for five years. Shoveller says U of G's fundraising team believes the institution will be able to rely on the ongoing support of its family members, just as Johnston Hall rests on a cornerstone laid 75 years ago.

The goal for the 2005/2006 Cornerstone Appeal is \$200,000, but Abdul says the AA&D team is focused primarily on participation. Last year, 13 per cent of the University's faculty and staff made a gift to the annual fund.

"Imagine how powerful our influence would be if we could increase that to 25 per cent," he says.

"Our ability to give varies with each individual," he adds, "but we all have the ability to care about the University's future, and we can show that by making a donation within our means."

Abdul says your participation in the fund will influence not just today's decision-makers but also current students who will be making decisions about education funding in the future.

Results of the Cornerstone Appeal will be reported in At Guelph and on the University website at www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/supporting_guelph. The website will direct donor attention to the new Cornerstone Fund, which supports the U of G operating budget, or to highest-priority funds that support University-wide and college-specific infrastructure development.

Faculty and staff who give to the Cornerstone Appeal can do so through payroll deduction or one of several other giving options.

at GUELPH

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INSIDE: NEW ASSISTANT VP (HUMAN RESOURCES) NAMED • ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LAB BENCH

CIDA Awards \$2 Million for Two Projects in Ghana, Morocco

Research aims to reduce poverty, improve water quality

BY LORI BONA HUNT

wo U of G PROJECTS aimed at enhancing agribusiness to reduce poverty in Ghana and improving water quality in Morocco have received nearly \$2 million from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The projects are worth about \$1 million each and are headed by professors at Guelph and the University's French-language campus, Collège d'Alfred. They are among 11 projects across Canada that received support from CIDA's Tier 2 funds April 29. Tier 2 projects are managed by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and promote the development and internationalization of education, research and extension activities at Canadian universities.

"This certainly is incredible news," says Prof. Anthony Clarke, acting associate vice-president (research and international relations). "We are the only university to have two Tier 2 projects funded, and in this extremely competitive research funding environment, that is a real feather in our cap."

In addition, a second CIDA project based at Alfred and managed by the Association of Canadian Community Colleges recently received \$400,000 in funding.

"All three projects support the University's overarching goal of strengthening partnerships and collaborations in research and development internationally," says Clarke. "More important, they will help enhance the lives and livelihoods of

See INTERNATIONAL on page 10



Prof. Peter Krell serves as mentor for science fair entrants Katherine Sowden, centre, and Xue (Shirley) Liang.

Science: The Next Generation

High school students mentored by CBS prof win berth at Canada-Wide Science Fair

BY ANDREW VOWLES

PROF. PETER KRELL, Molecular and Cellular Biology, won't be there in person. But he says part of him will be riding on the hopes of two Guelph high school students taking a promising science fair project to the national competition this month.

Krell, who served as this year's mentor to the pair of Grade 11 students at Centennial CVI, confesses he'd feel more than a little vicarious thrill if he were attending the event in mid-May. Harking back to his own national competition entry more than 40 years ago, he says: "I'd be like a high school kid again."

A project on a hormonal insecticide to kill crane flies won teens Xue (Shirley) Liang and Katherine Sowden an award at the Waterloo-Wellington Science and Engineering Fair in Kitchener earlier this year. That won them a berth at the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Vancouver.

In late April, they also took fourth place at the Aventis Biotech Challenge in the greater Toronto area. They were up against about 25 other entries, including projects on speeding up the healing of wounds, a possible diabetes drug, "light-up" plants and a natural sunscreen product. For the top project, students genetically modified an enzyme to enhance a plant's ability to remove

carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The Guelph students investigated the use of an artificial hormone as a possible control against the spread of European crane flies. Their homegrown project stemmed from Liang's observation of the brown patches on the lawn of her family's home. Not even chemical sprays could quell the infestation, she says.

She decided to team up with Sowden, who had worked last year on a project using water fleas to test for toxins in water.

Looking through research articles, they found a paper by Krell describing similar-sounding work on the genetics of the spruce budworm.

Having mentored several other students and even judged local and national contests, Krell was keen to help out. He says he's never been involved in a high school project as complex as this one.

"Unlike many students who are interested simply in doing a science fair project, these guys said: 'I want to do science."

He gave the students numerous references to read and advised them on their experiments. He also gave them space in his lab in the newly opened science complex, including access to sophisticated molecular equipment.

"All the molecular techniques

had to be done here," he says, adding that the teens served as good role models for his own graduate students.

Liang says a high point came when they ran their first protein gels. "We never did that before. We said, "Wow, this is the real stuff."

Sowden has enjoyed rubbing shoulders with researchers in Krell's lab. "It's nice to meet people who are interested in science," she says.

Pointing to the skills they honed in presenting their project and answering judges' questions, Sowden adds: "It really brings together everything we've learned."

The duo spent hours in the lab on evenings and weekends. They also grew fruit fly larvae in Liang's basement — and kept samples in her refrigerator — and tested the effects of the hormone in repeated trials. Krell had identified the particular chemical during his work with an American company screening compounds for controlling spruce budworm.

The students say their research is a long way from market, including testing to develop a truly environmentally friendly version. But they're interested in further studies of insects' hormone receptors and genetic material.

Liang plans to study science at university and hopes to become a professor or teacher. (Her mother,

See CBS on page 10

Southern Exposure

Northern Ontario Grade 8 students bound for U of G

BY REBECCA KENDALL

HIRTY-FIVE STUDENTS from a remote Ojibwa reserve in northern Ontario will board three small planes later this month and begin a journey that will bring them to U of G. The Grade 8 students attend Eenchokay Birchstick School in the First Nation community of Pikangikum, 250 kilometres north of Dryden in the middle of the Berens River. This will mark the first time most of them have been to southern Ontario and the first field trip the school has taken this far south in almost 15 years.

They're coming to Guelph to participate in the Science @ Guelph Experience (S@GE), the University's popular three-day science and technology camp for students in grades 7 and 8. Sponsored by the Office of Open Learning (OOL), Hospitality Services and Student Housing Services, S@GE gives participants a full university experience. They stay in

residence with their teachers and chaperones, eat on campus and experience interactive learning using U of G computing and laboratory facilities.

Learning modules are designed along the themes of the Ontario school science curriculum to promote intellectual creativity and a sense of discovery. Developed by Guelph faculty, the modules are typically taught by graduate students or fourth-year undergraduates doing research in the subject area. Among the instructors this year will be the 2005 S@GE celebrity, Guelph PhD candidate Cara Ann Wehkamp (see profile on page 7).

For the students from Pikangikum, S@GE will also give them a chance to learn about the possibilities that exist for them outside their community and an opportunity to meet and socialize with other children their age, says their teacher, Jane Havey.

See SCIENCE on page 10





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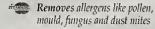


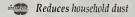
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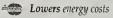


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Assistant Vice-President (Human Resources) Named

New AVP looks forward to creating 'vision of innovation and engagement for success'

ARTHA HARLEY, director of staff relations at the University of Western Ontario, will join U of G July 4 as Guelph's new assistant vice-president (human resources).

Harley, who has served in senior roles in the human resources division at Western for the past 17 years, is an H.B.Sc. graduate of UWO and is currently completing a certificate in alternative dispute resolution there. She is a member of the Human Resources Planning Society and serves as president of the Women's Community House board of direc-

Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration), says Harley's appointment follows an extensive national search that was aided by an external consultant.

"Martha's many years of experience in a university environment, her commitment to strategic organizational planning and creating a change dynamic, and her experience in leading comprehensive employee and leadership development programs were major factors in the University's decision to appoint her to this important leadership position,"

Harley says she's "excited" to be joining U of G's human resources

"I believe in an integrative and facilitative approach to resolving issues," she says. "I look forward to working with members of the University community on creating a vision of innovation and engagement for success, and encouraging an environment of stimulation, contribution, recognition, development and learning.'

When she arrives at Guelph this summer, Harley will work closely with Brendan Soye, acting assistant VP and manager of employee relations, throughout the transition period. Sullivan lauds Sove for the contributions he has made while serving in an acting capacity.

"Brendan's commitment to the University, the well-being of its employees and staff in Human Resources is remarkable," she says. "His willingness, since 2004, to serve as acting assistant vice-president while continuing to lead the employee relations division speaks to his dedication and professional

Harley's appointment will enable Soye, the University's chief spokesperson in collective bargaining, to focus on negotiations with employee groups in the coming months, says Sullivan. Soye will remain the University's primary contact for collective agreement issues.

Sullivan also thanks the search committee for its service and time commitment

Still No Provincial Funding News for U of G's New Budget Year

As U of G APPROACHES the finalization of fiscal year 2004/05 and begins to implement its 2005/06 budget plans, it does so without news of its levels of provincial funding.

Although the government has announced it will introduce a budget May 11, it's not expected that universities will know their funding levels for some time afterwards, says John Miles, assistant vice-president

Meanwhile, U of G's academic and non-academic departments have provided their respective vice-presidents with preliminary plans describing how they propose to implement the 2005/06 4.5-per-cent budget cut, says Miles. These plans include a variety of strategies such as the deferral of hiring, operating and capital expenses and the elimination of vacancies - all of which reduce the need for position redundancies.

Miles notes that a number of faculty and staff have accessed the provisions for voluntary early retirement and voluntary resignations. All the savings resulting from these positions will contribute to meeting the budget target.

Unfortunately, this wasn't enough to avoid the identification of some position redundancies, he says.

"We are hopeful that the number of redundancies will remain relatively small and that, once all redeployment strategies have been exhausted, most of the individuals in these positions will take advantage of the early retirement or buy-out opportunities or will be placed in other positions at the University."

Units affected by earlier announcements about 23 position redundancies linked to funding reallocations in the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food budget have also been able to access the funds established for early retirement or buy-out opportunities to help minimize bumping and layoffs, Miles

As for the impact of the cuts on academic programs, Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), remains optimistic that careful enrolment planning and management of the admissions process can mitigate detrimental effects on the student learning experience.

"It's noteworthy that there has been very little impact on the number of graduate teaching assistants," she says. "Only those programs anticipating a significant decrease in undergraduate enrolment are proposing reductions in their GTA numbers, and I expect that, looking University-wide, any positions lost will be offset by increases in other departments that are experiencing enrolment growth."

Mancuso notes that she will soon begin discussions with the other vice-presidents and deans on the distribution of the \$1.35 million available in 2005/06 for one-time investments for strategic adjustments and restructuring.

Meanwhile, as U of G enters the new budget year, uncertainty continues about key assumptions associated with growth in provincial funding support, says Miles. In terms of the 2004/05 fiscal year results, which will not be finalized until the year-end audit is completed in July, initial estimates indicate that Guelph will meet its budget targets, he says.

Mancuso adds that, although the premier has stated publicly that post-secondary education will be the centrepiece of the next Ontario budget, "we don't know how far the province will go in responding to the Rae recommendations or whether new funding will be targeted to specific needs such as facilities renewal or graduate student growth. Even with the release of the budget, we probably won't have a good idea of Guelph's specific allocations until well into the fall.'

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SAKURA TREES DONATED

The Sakura Project, chaired by the consul-general of Japan, has donated Sakura trees to U of G as a symbol of friendship between Canada and Japan. The gift was acknowledged this week at a ceremonial planting adjacent to the David G. Porter Memorial Japanese Garden at the Arboretum. The event also marked the 10th anniversary of the garden. Guests of honour were Hisao Yamaguchi, consul-general of Japan; members of the Consulate General of Japan; members of the Sakura Project Committee; and Bobbi Porter, wife of the late OVC professor David Porter. The Sakura Project aims to plant 3,000 of the cherry blossom trees around Ontario over a decade.

KUDOS FOR INTRAMURALS

For the second consecutive year, the University has been awarded the Intramural Achievement Award from the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association for having an outstanding intramural program. To be selected, schools must offer a variety of intramural programs, ensure there is something for everyone and use students in some form of leadership capacity.

W-FIVE HONOURED FOR

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) has selected CTV's W-FIVE to receive the 2005 CVMA Hill's Public Relations Award for Never Give Up, a documentary that follows faculty, students, clients and patients at OVC's Veterinary Teaching Hospital. The award, consisting of a plaque and \$1,000, is presented annually to an individual or group for work that enhances the public image of the veterinary profession. The original hour-long W-FIVE program aired last May; an updated half-hour version was broadcast April 9. W-FIVE producer Garry Dwyer-Joyce says the prize money will be donated to OVC's Pet Trust Fund.

RACERS TO UNVEIL NEW CAR

An all-wheel-drive race car designed and built by U of G engineering students for an international competition will be unveiled May 6 at 1 p.m. in the University Centre courtyard. The car will be entered in the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers competition, the largest prototype race in the world, which runs May 18 to 22 in Pontiac, Mich. This is the third year U of G has participated. "This year's team is promising a faster, more refined racing machine aimed at finishing in the top I0 teams," says engineering student Jason Griffith, co-manager of Gryphon Racing.

ATRIUM RESTAURANT TO OPEN DURING SUMMER

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management will operate its restaurant during the summer for the first time. Run by chef Simon Day, it will be open Monday to Friday for breakfast from 7:30 to 9 a.m. and for lunch from noon to 2 p.m. For more details, visit wivw. atriumrestaurantuoguelph.ca.

AVMA Accredits Ridgetown

Stamp of approval means vet technology grads will have wider job prospects

BY ANDREW VOWLES

OBS AND FURTHER TRAINING prospects have widened for students in Ridgetown College's veterinary technology program now that the regional campus has become the first Canadian college to receive accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

The new stamp of approval means the program's graduates will find it easier to look south of the Canada-U.S. border for work and additional training, says Irene Moore, program co-ordinator.

Ridgetown is the only one of eight Ontario schools with a veterinary technology program to be accredited by the AVMA. In the United States, 108 colleges are accredited.

Like most Ontario programs, Ridgetown's also has accreditation from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), the College of Veterinarians of Ontario Hospital Accreditation Program and the Canadian Council on Animal Care. Fifteen veterinary technology programs in Canada are accredited by the CVMA

Ridgetown's AVMA accreditation visit in February included a site inspection, a curriculum review and interviews with faculty, students, graduates and the program's advisory board.

Moore says the program's passing mark is good news for students and graduates. "If you're looking at a global economy, you want to have the ability for transferability to employment and education from one country to another."

She adds that some states accept only grads of AVMA-accredited schools.

JoAnne Martin, who will graduate from Ridgetown this year and has lined up a job at a veterinary clinic in Chatham, says she's never thought about going to the States to work, "but now that it's an option, it certainly gives me the chance to explore opportunities I may have never even considered before."

Working alongside veterinarians, veterinary technicians perform most hands-on clinical functions except diagnosis, prognosis, prescription and major surgery. Most Ridgetown grads work in companion-animal practices, but some are employed in mixed- and food-animal practices, research, specialized practices and humane societies.

Technicians often have more direct contact with animals than practising veterinarians do.

"Students who want to be working hands-on with the animals are recognizing that veterinary technology is more appropriate for them," says Moore.

Eight colleges in Ontario offer veterinary technician programs, twice the number available just five years ago.

Up to 650 people apply each year for Ridgetown's two-year program, which accepts 40 students into the conventional fall-winter timetable and another 40 in every two of three years for its three-year alternative-delivery option. At any one time, about 160 students are enrolled in the program.

The alternative-delivery option allows students to complete the program in three years through a combination of modular correspondence courses and three summers spent on campus, a choice particularly appealing to mature students balancing work and study, says Moore.

The veterinary technology program began at Ridgetown in 1967, moved to Centralia College two years later and returned to Ridgetown in 1994 after Centralia closed. Offered in its own facility on the Ridgetown campus, the program emphasizes large-animal training, including dairy and swine. Five vet technicians and three veterinarians offer courses in the program.

OAC PROF JOINS FACT-FINDING MISSION TO SRI LANKA

Prof. Jana Janakiram, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, is one of five people selected to take part in a fact-finding mission to Sri Lanka with World University Service of Canada (WUSC). He left April 30 with representatives from WUSC and four other universities - Manitoba, Queen's, Trent and Waterloo - to visit the tsunami-devastated country. The five universities are joining forces to identify ways to make a co-ordinated and meaningful contribution to long-term rebuilding efforts in Sri Lanka.

ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGIST GIVES LECTURES IN SPAIN

Prof. Peter Kevan, Environmental Biology, has just returned from participating in the Jornada Polinizacio'n en Plantas Horti'colas in Mojonera in southern Spain. The course, attended by about 100 participants, was spoosored by the Instituto Andaluz de Investigacio'n Formacio'n Agraria, Pesquera, Alimentaria y de la Producio'n Ecolo'gica. Instructing professors came from Spain, Turkey, Italy, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada. Kevan lectured on the use of greenhouse pollinating bees as vectors of biocontrol agents useful against fungal and insect pests.

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM FURLONG

Prof. William "Bill" Furlong of the Department of Economics died April 30 in Kitchener. A BA graduate of Sir George Williams University, MA graduate of Concordia University and PhD graduate of Queen's University, he joined the faculty of U of G in 1981. His research and teaching focused on public finance, welfare economics and urban economics, particularly the economics of crime. He is survived by his children, Dylan and Liam, as well as his parents, three brothers and a sister. The Department of Economics has established the William J. Furlong Scholarship in Microeconomics in his memory. Donations to the scholarship can be sent to Alumni House.

JOHN GEORGE

University professor emeritus John George of the Department of Integrative Biology died April 1 at the age of 83. A PhD graduate of the University of Bombay, he was founding head of zoology at India's University of Baroda and twice a Fulbright Fellow. He also founded PAVO, the Indian journal of ornithology, and co-wrote Avian Myology, a major treatise on the muscle of birds. In 1967, Prof. George joined U of G, where he continued his work on muscle physiology. He received the Sigma Xi Award for Excellence Research in 1979. He retired in 1986 and was named University professor emeritus in 1987. Predeceased by his wife, Prof. George is survived by two sons, Vinod and Manoj; a daughter, Anuppa; and three grandchildren.

Engineering Review Planned

Process to build on school's strengths, maximize teaching and research programs

RESIDENT Alastair Summerlee and provost and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso have announced plans for a review of the School of Engineering. It's one of several consultative processes that have been initiated to examine how the University can further strengthen some of its programs and activities.

The review will be conducted by Chan Wirasinghe, dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Calgary, who will examine the role of engineering at Guelph, including the scope, scale and delivery of programs. He paid an initial visit to Guelph in April and will return this month to meet with engineering faculty, staff and students. He will also consult with representatives from the Office of Research administration, Graduate Studies and College of Physical and Engineering Science.

"The goal of this review is to examine the fit of the School of Engineering with the overall mission and strategic direction of the University," says Summerlee. "It will also determine the best way to build on the school's unique strengths and maximize its teaching and research programs."

Adds Mancuso: "It's through this type of periodic assessment that strong disciplines can be maintained within a strong university."

Similar reviews are already under way in the Faculty of Management and the Faculty of Environmental Sciences as part of the strategic initiatives first announced in November. They are intended to position the University's core strengths in teaching and research for the future.

Students Pick Top Teacher

Central Student Association honours French studies prof for dedication

PROF. DAWN CORNELIO, Languages and Literatures, has received the 2005 Teaching Excellence Award from the Central Student Association (CSA).

"Being nominated for this award by the students I've worked with really is an honour — quite possibly the top honour in my book," says Cornelio, who is also the coordinator of U of G's women's studies program.

"It shows how receptive our students are to everything you try to give them, in terms of both academic content and personal skills like patience and availability. 1'm very grateful to them for thinking of me in this way and showing me I've made an impact on them."

The student-sponsored award is presented each year to a U of G instructor who demonstrates profound dedication to undergraduates and to post-secondary education. A committee of four students and one academic adviser chooses a winner from a shortlist of candidates.

"It was very difficult to come to a decision," says Jenn Watt, the CSA's academic commissioner. "Ultimately, it came down to what happened in the classroom. Prof. Cornelio's nomination letters detailed a professor who was enthusiastic, creative and supportive of her students."

Cornelio, who joined U of G three years ago, teaches French language, literature and translation. Her research focuses on the practice of translation, the liberation of the image of the subservient translator, and French extreme-contemporary novels and poetry.

"Teaching really is one of my favourite parts of this job," she says. "I really love challenging students — and being challenged by them, too. It keeps you thinking fast and keeps you focused."



For Prof. Tedra Osell, popular culture is both a private interest and a public academic endeavour.

Giving Voice to Unspoken Truths

English prof studies social relevance of 18th-century 'blogs'

BY REBECCA KENDALL

HERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE between what thoughts and opinions we disclose publicly and what we keep to ourselves. It's part of human nature to enjoy some sort of privacy, but there comes a point when talking publicly about things held private brings about social change and new ways of thinking.

People often look to the media or politicians to publicly say the things private citizens don't want to for fear of negative consequences. This concept interests Prof. Tedra Osell, English and Theatre Studies, who's been examining early English periodicals and their social relevance as a form of pop-culture literature.

In early 18th-century London, the people who were using media as an avenue to voice their private thoughts publicly spoke about timely issues such as the role of women, how people dressed and how they behaved, she says. "They were sort of like 18th-century blogs.

Like blogs, many of these periodicals were written anonymously. The topics were general and often provided humorous commentary on society and sometimes reflected the thoughts most people didn't want to say too loudly for fear of public ridicule or repercussion.

The Tatler was one of the first of these single-sheet publications that were sold on street corners and in shops a few times each week. It spawned many copycats such as the Female Tatler, the Spectator and the Guardian. "It was wildly successful, so a lot of other people started doing the same thing," says Osell.

Some authors never identified themselves. "They weren't necessarily anonymous, although some of them were, but they were all published under a name that was clearly

The Tatler, for example, was written using the voice of Bickerstaff, a character from another pamphlet published earlier. Some subsequent periodical authors played up the -staff suffix. That led to the creation of personas such as Sir Thomas

Whipstaff, Humphrey Wagstaff and Mrs. Jenny Distaff.

"By masking identity to some extent, they got around the fact that the culture at the time was very status-oriented, that who you knew mattered and that what your political connections were mattered," says Osell. "These publications created this fiction that they didn't."

She adds that the separation between the private and public spheres remains to this day. She says this pration functions on many levels and raises questions about public performance and how people's perception of the ideal dictates how they conduct themselves.

"One of the problems for higher education is that it's kind of a performance. Students have a lot of anxiety about performing the role of whatever they think a university student should be - what an educated person should be - and I think a lot of student anxiety comes from this."

She says this kind of performance anxiety can also find its way into family life, academic life and professional life because people fear negative judgment.

Osell's private interests tend to turn into public academic endeavours, and popular culture, whether it be of the 18th or 21st century, is at the top of her list. A graduate of Washington University, the University of Nebraska and the University of Washington, she says that, as a graduate student, she often had friends over because raising a young child (her son, Linus, is now four) while working on a PhD didn't leave much time for going out socially. So she, her husband and their friends often found themselves watching Buffy the Vampire Slayer on Tuesday nights, which led to many in-depth conversations about the show

Their analysis became so intense that it led them to form a panel that presented its findings at a Slayage conference, an event where scholars espouse the merits of the show, last May in Nashville. Although it's not a formal research interest of Osell's. she chaired their discussion on "The Horror of Blood: Family Relation-

ships in Buffy the Vampire Slayer and presented a cultural-historical paper examining maternal love, maternal lust and temporal transformation as depicted in one particular

"It was using academia to have a social event," she says.

Osell, who taught in Nebraska and Washington before coming to Guelph in 2003, believes there's a lot of academic work that can be done in pop culture and that academics are n in a research frame of mind "It's hard to turn your brain off," she

Ottawa Supports Water Research

U of G engineer aims to improve water infrastructure

BY LORI BONA HUNT

ROF. ED MCBEAN, Engineering, will share in \$3 million in support as part of a new federal research program. His project on improving the resilience of water infrastructure is one of six selected nationwide to receive inaugural funding.

McBean, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Water Supply Security at Guelph, received \$256,000 last month from Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada and Science and Engineering Research Canada as part of the Joint Interdependencies Research Program. It was created last March to support ongoing national efforts to secure and protect Canada's critical infrastructure. This is the first round of funded projects.

McBean will examine the links among meteorology, water supply, waste-water systems, communications, emergency response and health infrastructure.

The influence and interaction of one system's performance on another are key to their successful performance," he says. "One infrastructure cannot be considered in isolation. For example, a severe rainstorm may wreak havoc on the water-supply system, creating health risks for residents. When does a boil-water advisory need to be disseminated and when should it be

A longtime environmental engineer and risk-management specialist, McBean joined U of G in 2003. Assessing water-supply systems and helping decision-makers find ways to make those systems safer in Canada and abroad is the purpose of his position in the School of Engineer-

As part of the Joint Interdependencies Research Program, McBean and the other project leaders will attend a national workshop later this spring, meeting with industry, government and international experts to discuss practical applications of their research. Other projects include developing models for emergency management and models to simulate critical infrastructure networks; studying the domino effects in left-supporting networks; and using geographic decision support systems in emergency management.

"This is the first research program of its kind in Canada," says Anne McLellan, deputy prime minister and minister of public safety and emergency preparedness. "The research will produce new science-based knowledge that will help infrastructure managers better assess the risk of failures and prevent them, or at least mitigate their potentially devastating economic and societal impacts."

Accessibility Upgrades Continue

BY REBECCA KENDALL

AKING THE U OF G campus accessible to everyone is a priority for the University, and a variety of upgrades and improvements are heing made in an effort to give students, staff, faculty and visitors better access to facilities, says Chris Pickard, director of planning, engineering and construction.

We incorporate accessibility to the greatest extent we can in all projects, renovations and new buildings," he says.

Pickard is also chair of the Campus Accessibility Committee, which collects comments, ideas and proposals from the University community and makes recommendations about what improvements would be helpful to those living with disabilities. Recent improvements include the installation of assisted hearing devices, power door operators and additional handrails; upgrades to washrooms and walkways; more curb cuts and barrier-free parking spaces; and numerous ramps

This work is often an interdepartmental effort, says Pickard, citing Hospitality Services' recent financial support for the installation of assisted hearing equipment in War

Accessibility is also included in

as accessibility initiatives, he says. For example, where fire alarms are being upgraded, strobe lights will be included to alert the hearing-impaired, and many indoor signs are being complemented with Braille. Buildings, additions and full renovations constructed to fully barrier-free standards include Rozanski Hall, the science complex, Lennox Addington-Hall Café and Lounge and some residence suites.

Even with these recent efforts, 'we're always changing and we're getting better as we learn more," says Pickard. For example, a post-occupancy review of Phase 1 of the science complex has suggested other improvements for future projects.

The Campus Accessibility Committee uses input from the University community to help identify and prioritize areas where accessibility improvements are needed. Pickard notes that some buildings are extremely difficult to retrofit for accessibility because of their age and condition and the degree of structural change that would be required. In those circumstances, the University will work to identify alternative ways of accommodating needs, such as relocating services to another accessible location, he says.

Barry Wheeler has been working

other projects not usually thought of to raise awareness of accessibility for the past 10 years. He first came to the University as a student and is now an adviser in the Centre for Students With Disabilities. He lives with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, a hereditary progressive neuromuscular disorder that affects primarily the feet, legs and hands. He is a member of the Campus Accessibility Committee and says that, although there are some improvements still to be made, U of G has made great strides in reducing physical barriers.

'I've been involved with extensive analysis across Ontario," he says. "We are one of the top two most accessible university campuses in the province.

Every year, the committee reviews a list of requests and is now looking at requests for the next fiscal year.

Improving accessibility makes it much easier for all of us," says Pickard, noting that many people are affected by issues of accessibility at some point in their life. He says improvements under consideration for the next fiscal year include additional ramps, ramp repairs and more power door operators, as well as upgrades to elevator controls and washrooms.

The McLaughlin Library will also undergo an extensive accessibility improvement study, which is scheduled to be completed this summer.

On the Other Side of the Lab Bench

BY ANDREW VOWLES

A S A PRACTISING veterinarian in Mount Forest for the last quarter-century, Jim Fairles routinely sent samples for diagnostic testing to the Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) at U of G. Last October, he returned to his alma mater, where he's now seeing things from the other side of the lab bench as the AHL's client services veterinarian.

Housed at the Ontario Veterinary College, the AHL serves as the provincial diagnostic lab for all samples and specimens sent by veterinarians across the province, including samples from the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at OVC itself. Arriving ship ments may contain anything from routine samples of blood or other tissues to animal remains sent for autopsy, such as several cats, a dog and a wild bird found dead last month in a Toronto neighbourhood.

Samples and specimens arrive not literally on Fairles's desk but nearby, in the sample reception area within OVC's Department of Pathobiology wing. He supervises 10 people, including clerical staff, medical lab technicians and veterinary technicians who receive samples, determine which particular lab they should go to for analysis and enter cases into the lab's computer system.

"They all have some lab background," he says of his co-workers. That includes training in correct lab procedures and attire suitable for working with a Biosafety Level II facility.



Client services veterinarian Jim Fairles sees numerous samples arrive for diagnostic tests at the Animal Health Laboratory. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

It's also his job to answer practitioners' questions about what samples to send, how to prepare them, what tests are available at Guelph and how to interpret results. Pathologists within the AHL share the results of their analysis directly with client veterinarians.

The lab is an operating unit of Guelph's Laboratory Services Division (LSD), which is based at 95 Stone Rd. Sharing space — including the post-mortem rooms — with the Department of Pathobiology, the AHL has about 80 full- and part-time employees, including 15 veterinarians. The unit also includes

the toxicology and soil and nutrient lab sections at Stone Road. And it serves practitioners in eastern Ontario through the regional pathology AHL lab at Kemptville College. Employees include specialists in such areas as virology, bacteriology, pathology, molecular biology, parasitology and toxicology.

The AHL keeps an eye on patterns of new and existing animal discases. As a partner with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food in the Ontario Animal Health Surveillance Network, the lab helps maintain healthy animals and safe food in the province. The unit offers more than 1,000 diagnostic tests in-house. For more unusual and infrequent tests or analysis, the AHL sends samples elsewhere within other parts of LSD or to about 15 other labs in Canada or the United States. Electron microscopy, for example, takes place at 95 Stone Rd.

In turn, the AHL is the "go-to" place among other labs for virology and analysis of *Mycoplasma*, a species of bacteria that infects livestock.

"In cattle, it's a particular concern to the feedlot industry," says Fairles, whose new position is an expansion of the swine health adviser role held previously by Gaylan Josephson.

Extension of an unrelated swine project in China led to a first-ever chance for Fairles to work in international development. Beginning in spring 2002, he spent 18 months training veterinarians in a relatively poor part of China.

The project was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency and run by a private company based in Calgary, It grew out of the existing China-Canada lean swine project, which has seen development of a swine-breeding program in China.

Visiting veterinary stations in Sichuan province, Fairles trained groups of veterinarians in animal health and disease management, a key concern for China as it seeks to meet standards required for membership in the World Trade Organization. Provision of veterinary services in China will continue to evolve for some years, says Fairles, who spoke about his experience during a recent departmental seminar at U of G.

Fairles earned bis DVM at Guelph in 1980 and an agricultural MBA in 1999. These days, another practitioner is running his veterinary business in Mount Forest. Fairles figures he's been on call long enough, not to mention having been kicked often enough by recalcitrant patients.

"We routinely send samples to the Animal Health Lab," he says."
"I'm just sitting on the other side of the desk now."

SSHRC Seeks to Expand Its Role

As a 'knowledge council,' granting agency aims to boost influence, impact of research in the social sciences, humanities

BY REBECCA KENDALL

of G RESEARCHERS in the social sciences and humanities must be open to the idea of working collaboratively, be willing to study areas of social relevance and be active in communicating their work and findings if they want to boost their chances of receiving funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). So says Prof. Terry Crowley, chair of the Department of History and U of G's representative to SSHRC.

In fall 2003, SSHRC began a process of national consultation to find ways to strengthen the social sciences and humanities research enterprise in Canada. It started at Guelph with a visit by council president Marc Renaud. As a result, says Crowley, SSHRC has gone through a transformation, proposing to extend its role from a granting council that supports and promotes research to a "knowledge council" that also concerns itself with the influence and impact of research.

SSHRC will continue its commitment to research excellence, competitive funding, accountability, inclusiveness and freedom of inquiry, he says, but its core values are expected to expand to include larger ongoing partnerships or "clusters" and to maximize the short- and long-term impact of the knowledge gained.

"I would like our social sciences and humanities faculty to stop for a bit and think when they're framing their research proposals about how they could incorporate their work into a larger project that would make up a research cluster," says Crowley. "This is the funding area most likely to grow in the near future."

Clusters that received SSHRC funding in 2004 included those focusing on social citizenship, business ethics, media governance, language acquisition and early childhood development.

Prof. Kerry Daly, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, leads a SSHRC-funded collaborative project on father involvement with seven community-based partnerships across Canada.

"In the process of working collaboratively with our partners, we have developed a greater sense of confidence that the results and products of this research will be directly relevant and beneficial to fathers themselves," says Daly.

Funded under the Community-University Research Alliance (CURA), his project unites more than 50 university researchers, community service providers and policy-makers working to ensure that both the research agenda and outcomes are relevant and useful for the participating stakeholders.

CURA is also funding a national research project on rural women headed by Prof. Belinda Leach, Sociology and Anthropology.

Crowley stresses that those doing research in the humanities and social sciences need not abandon individual work, but they should be open to collaborating with other institutions, agencies and organizations if they want to take advantage of new funding opportunities.

Up to this point, funding in the humanities and social sciences hasn't been as extensive as that provided by granting councils for medical, scientific and engineering research, he says. "There are many proposals and simply not enough money to go around" He notes that the success rate of SSHRC proposals is just 43 per cent.

Crowley believes that, by working with other institutions and agencies, U of G researchers will have an opportunity to raise their profile and obtain more support. Increasing the profile of research outside the disciplines and creating greater public awareness will help SSHRC secure more government funding, he says.

"There's a disconnect between the amount of research conducted in the humanities and social sciences and the awareness society has of that research."

Crowley notes that, although there will still be the same number of individual research grants, "there will likely be new money available to people who think in bigger terms. For our university's well-being, more researchers need to start thinking in this new way."

Researchers also need to be aware of the increased emphasis on research tools, with SSHRC continuing to look favourably on projects that use computers and the web to disseminate knowledge and make research materials more readily available, he says.

The council also intends to be more active in serving as a conduit for connecting Canadian researchers to investigators abroad, he adds.

The third and final volume in the SSHRC transformation process outlining these policies is available at www. uoguelph.ca/research.

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Hooking Up for Better Health

U of G projects aim to improve health, economic and educational prospects for northern Ontario aboriginal communities

BY ANDREW VOWLES

FART WITH LIMITED health-care services for aboriginal people in northwestern Ontario, says U of G doctoral student George Ferreira. Add in the isolation of small native communities separated by vast expanses of wilderness and the cost of airlifting patients hundreds of kilometres to the nearest centre for treatment, and it's little wonder that health-care administrators are eyeing new ideas to bring health services to far-flung parts of the province, he says. One key idea is tele-health — the use of communication and information technology to hook those communities with health professionals in larger centres.

Recording the experiences of aboriginal communities in northwestern Ontario and assessing the effects of an expanding tele-health program are the related projects of Ferreira and master's student Andres Ibanez in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development (SEDRD). They're both graduate students of rural extension studies professor Ricardo Ramirez, who joined SEDRD early in 2004.

Beyond health care alone, both students and their adviser hope to help document how aboriginal organizations in northwestern Ontario are improving their educational and economic prospects.

Access to health services for residents of these remote communities is a key concern, says Ibanez. This part of Ontario is roughly the size of France and is home to about 25,000 people, mostly aboriginal and most living in remote communities with 300 to 900 inhabitunts. For many communities, small airplanes provide the only year-round access, although most have road access for part of the winter.

In some communities, a single visiting nurse may look after 400 people. Emergency patients needing specialized treatment must often be flown to Sioux Lookout or Winnipeg, at a cost of \$8,000 to \$12,000 per trip.

"Tele-health technology provides an option for certain ailments and for continued treat-

ment of conditions already diagnosed," says Ramirez. "Having an option not to travel can be an important improvement in health-care quality, especially for the elders."

SEDRD conducts its work in the north in partnership with Keewaytinook Okimakanak, an aboriginal council based in Balmertown near Red Lake, about 170 kilometres north of the Trans-Canada Highway near the Manitoba border.

Ibanez's research is part of the evaluation of a collaborative project implemented by Keewaytinook Okimakanak Tele-Health in partnership with the NORTH network and with funding from Health Canada's primary health-care transition fund. The project has been designed to expand tele-medicine facilities to 24 communities in the Sioux Lookout district.

Tele-health can reduce emergency flights by 20 per cent or 4,000 flights a year — saving more than the cost of the technology itself. It's estimated that, since 2001, a \$5-million investment in this technology has saved about \$20 million in health-care costs, says Ferreira.

Under the project, diagnostic equipment in the community allows people to send information to doctors in larger centres for more rapid diagnosis. Ferreira recalls one diabetic patient in her 70s whose fear of flying had kept her from seeking medical attention. Instead, she was assessed and treated through tele-health.

The project uses broadband connections provided by K-Net (www.knet.ca), a program of the Keewaytinook Okimakanak (Northern Chiefs) tribal council. The council belongs to the Nishnawbe Aski Nation, which represents 49 First Nations communities in northern Ontario. K-Net's broadband network is seen as a promising model for connecting remote aboriginal communities throughout Canada, says Ramirez.

After local people are trained to use the technology, the service allows residents to gain access to such things as diabetes and mental health consultations, advice for healthy babies, and follow-up consultations from medical in-

terventions, radiology and psychiatric services. "The main objective is to improve the quality of access to health care, especially to specialists who don't visit these communities very often," says lbanez, who did his undergraduate degree in political science at U of G.

Since beginning graduate work in 2003, he has spent four months in Balmertown and has travelled to several fly-in communities. "I'm interested in the hands-on community engagement work."

So is Ferreira, a former film producer and director who expects to complete his PhD this year. He's exploring the use of video in documenting the lives of aboriginal people in northern Ontario and the effects of communication infrastructure on health, educational and economic development.

Earlier this semester, he was preparing for a screening of his latest participatory video by officials in Ottawa. His research on the policy-making potential of video may support continued investment in broadband services to other remote communities in Ontario and across Canada.

"We use video for people to tell their own stories and to talk to policy-makers," says Ferreira, who did the filming and conducted interviews in native communities. Likening the experience to the Fogo Process used to develop short films with remote fishing communities in Newfoundland, he says: "We're looking to use video for policy development."

In 2000, K-Net won the competition in the aboriginal category for funding under an Industry Canada Smart Communities Program to enhance broadband and high-speed connections for video, voice and data. The demonstration project initially covered Fort Severn, Deer Lake, Poplar Hill, North Spirit Lake and Keewaytin, the five communities that make up Keewaytinook Okimakanak.

Five years ago, some communities may have had no more than a single phone for 400 people. Today, many individual homes are hooked up to broadband services.

"Some communities had e-mail before

phones," says Ramirez.

Tele-health is now expanding to cover 24 First Nations communities, including such places as Sandy Lake, Webequie and Bearskin Lake.

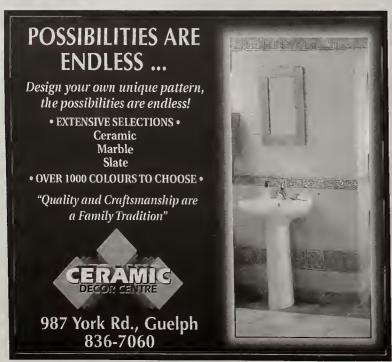
Guelph's relationship with KO and K-Net grew out of research done by Ramirez, supported by funding from the Sustainable Rural Communities Project of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, on the introduction of information and communications technology to rural communities.

"We captured the experience," he says, stressing that the broadband project is owned by the northern Ontario communities. "We're helping them to tell their story and to reflect on the accomplishments. We're also learning from this experience that conventional approaches to evaluation need to be complemented with qualitative and participatory tools."

Ramirez studied crop science at Guelph and completed a master's in education in eastern Canada before returning to U of G for a PhD in rural studies. Having worked earlier on communication in sustainable and organic agriculture, including a stint at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome and projects with non-governmental organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean, he now studies how information and communications technologies affect rural and remote communities.

Both Ramirez and Ferreira belong to a new research network that grew out of the project last year. Supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the network — called Research on Information and Communication Technologies With Aboriginal Communities (RICTA) — includes university researchers from Canada and abroad, as well as community and government representatives.

Says Ramirez: "RICTA is an emerging platform for action research where aboriginal organizations are engaged in the design and implementation of the projects, rather than being passive research subjects."









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Someone to Look Up To

U of *G* role model points the way for aboriginal youth

By Andrew Vowles

O YOU WANT TO BE AN ASTRONAUT? That's a typical question from wide-eyed youngsters who learn that Cara Ann Wehkamp studies plants for possible use on Mars missions. Seated in U of G's Aboriginal Resource Centre (ARC) one day this spring, the PhD candidate in environmental biology offers her signature wide smile while vigorously shaking her head. As a designated role model for a national aboriginal program, she encourages her audiences to aim high, but not necessarily that high. "My feet are firmly planted on Earth,"

In another sense, that grounding is partly what led to her being selected as one of the inaugural aboriginal role models under a new program run by the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO), Intended to put success stories in front of aboriginal groups across the country, the National Aboriginal Role Model Program saw 12 Canadians between the ages of 13 and 30 chosen from about 100 nominations last summer to lend their name, face and time to the cause of offering hope and inspiration to aboriginal youth.

As with the other role models, Wehkamp has seen her face beaming back from a poster and trading cards developed for the program under the tag line "Lead Your Way!" Asked to interpret that motto, she says: "It's teaching aboriginal youth that they don't have to look out of their community to

More important, she says, is to find the pertinent qualities inside themselves. "The best leaders are people who don't know they're leaders. The best leaders aren't looking for that position; they fall into it.

That's the message she's taken to kids twice since last fall, beginning with a visit to Waverley Drive Public School in Guelph. Then she headed west to a community school run by the Esketeme People near Williams Lake, located in the Brit-

ish Columbia Interior midway between Prince George and Kamloops. There, she judged science fair entries of students from kindergarten to Grade 9. Recalling the aboriginal flavour of some of the work, she says one student illustrated the action of stomach acids by using a real wolf's stomach.

Her talk with youth groups mixes roughly equal parts of inspiration, heritage and personal reflection. One of her messages is to encourage youngsters to strive to learn and better themselves without losing their culture and ancestry — no mean balancing act for many aboriginal people caught between the pull of their heritage and the tug of urban opportunity

Particularly in remote locations such as the B.C. Interior and northern Ontario, there's a fear that young people going away to school will never return. Gesturing at her surroundings as an example, she says the ARC offers "an opportunity for students at Guelph to keep their culture while striving for academic excellence." Putting those things together is also embodied in the leadership program. "You can hold on to home and be proud of

Closely related is the psychological tension between hiding and acknowledging - indeed, even seeking out - native ancestry. Wehkamp knows about that tug-of-war from the experience of her father's family. Hailing from the Ottawa River Valley, her Algonquin forebears changed their name several generations ago from its native roots to a French moniker, a



common ploy at the time intended to help escape the typical native stigma. Several generations later, she says she and other peers are now trying to reclaim some of that ancestry.

Wehkamp grew up in Hanmer, near Sudbury. Her own role model as a youngster was her mother, Cathy Chamberlain, who raised her two children after a divorce. Wehkamp's father, Craig, was still present as she and her brother, Sheldon, grew

"My mom came from a large family that had to struggle to survive," she says, adding that her mother's father had died while she was young. "She taught me that your family is impor-

Wehkamp has been in Guelph for 11 years, having moved south for her last year of high school. That decision was prompted mostly by her passion for horseback riding, which she began at age eight. Throughout her youth, she competed provincially in western performance, dressage and show jumping. She still rides after-hours out of stables in Fergus, but she

Having worked part time at a vet clinic, she enrolled at Guelph thinking she might become a veterinarian. That changed in the first year of her science degree, when she encountered a plant biology course. She'd spent plenty of time outdoors as a youngster, but she'd never considered the intricacies of plant life and adaptations to stress. For a student who had watched attempts to revive Sudbury's industry-ravaged landscape, "that really fascinated me," she says.

After completing a B.Sc. in plant biology, Wehkamp earned a master's degree in environmental biology. For her M.Sc. thesis, she studied a sensor developed by Prof. Mike Dixon for gauging the water status of plants under low-pressure conditions. For her current PhD work, she's studying plant gas exchange, information that may be useful for scientists developing life-support systems for Mars missions using plants to provide everything from food to air filtration. She still works with Dixon, departmental chair and director of the Controlled Environment Systems Research Facility (CESRF), which is located next to the Bovey Building.

Referring to her colleagues in the NAHO program, Wehkamp says: "They call me the scientist." Part of her role is to foster interest in science and university education among aboriginal youth. That will also be her function as this year's celebrity during U of G's Science @ Guelph Experience (S@GE) program for grades 7 and 8 students this spring (see story on page 1). "Science is all around us," she says, borrowing a line from NAHO's promotional materials.

Wehkamp's status as a scientist and as an equestrian makes her stand out, says Joyce Spence, NAHO program

"Her story hits in the right way, especially for young female aboriginal youth in a field you rarely see aboriginals enter. Whatever dream they may have, it's attainable.

Across Gordon Street from the CESRF labs, Wehkamp spends a lot of time at the ARC, located in the Federal Building. She belongs to the executive of the Aboriginal Student Association, a group that she co-founded in 2002 and that now has about 100 members. She also sits on the U of G Aboriginal Advisory Committee, formed a year ago. And she received the University's Andre Auger Citizenship Award for advancing aboriginal students.

Jaime Mishibinijima, aboriginal student adviser with Student Life and Counselling, which has responsibility for the ARC, credits Wehkamp for much of the growth of aboriginal

Wehkamp has one more outreach trip planned, this one a week-long excursion to several fly-in communities in northern Ontario. There, she'll discuss her own story and talk about choices and prospects with her young listeners.

Aboriginal enrolment in post-secondary education is lower than the Canadian average, she says, adding that she hopes to "encourage other aboriginal youth to see post-secondary education as an accessible goal and a place for them in society." At the same time, she hopes those listeners will absorb the message that pursuing their dreams doesn't have to mean sacrificing

Referring to stigmas and stereotypes often borne by aboriginal people, she says: "I am in a particular position to suggest to aboriginal youth that they can overcome these stereotypes and build understanding of aboriginal cultures in society. The role model visits are not only about me sharing my urban academic experiences but also about aboriginal youth maintaining, sharing and highlighting aboriginal traditions within a modern society.'

Forum to Discuss Interdisciplinary Environmental Research

is being asked to think big about the environment. A new initiative designed to stimulate interdisciplinary thinking about environmental research will be launched at a meeting May 10 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre.

The Environmental Science Research Initiative has been developed by Prof. Joe Ackerman, associate dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences, and endorsed by all deans at

HE U OF G research community U of G. Its goal is to "allow us to move toward a more integrative and interdisciplinary model at Guelph by engaging the natural, physical and social sciences and the humanities in environmental research," says their interactions with it. This capac-Ackerman. "It's also hoped that, ity deserves far greater efforts at through this initiative, the University will be able to identify all the faculty who contribute to our collective expertise in matters of the environment."

Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-presi-

"extraordinary multidisciplinary capacity to enhance our understanding of the environment and of the values and practices that people apply in their interactions with it. This capacco-ordination and far greater visibility in our community and our country. I want to thank Prof. Ackerman and all the deans for driving this initiative forward."

Ackerman says the deans recog-

dent (research), says U of G has nize that, in addition to benefits that greater research activities in the environment would bring to undergraduate learning experiences, graduate training opportunities could be significantly enhanced. This would be consistent with what's anticipated to be a growing demand for graduate education in Ontario, he says

Under the Environmental Science Research Initiative, faculty will be asked to develop new ideas around which research could be rallied, and Ackerman at Ext. 54800.

to explore all the funding opportunities that could help move those ideas forward, says Ackerman. They will be invited to bring these ideas forward, and seed funding will be provided to help them develop research plans and prepare what are often large, complex funding applications, he says.

A new web link, www.envsci. uoguelph.ca/research.htm, has been set up to provide information updates. For more details, call

High-Performance Computing Focus of May Symposium

Organizers hope to spur federal investment

BY ANDREW VOWLES

T DOESN'T GET much more serious than the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. That's the agency Prof. Deb Stacey found herself talking to last month, along with officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, about how bioterrorists might use livestock diseases to cripple farmers and entire economic sectors.

So why was a professor in the Department of Computing and Information Science (CIS) meeting with U.S. security officials about fears of disease spread? The answer lies in the work she has done with researchers at the Ontario Veterinary College and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on modelling the spread of diseases such as avian flu among animals - diseases that might become weapons in the hands of bioterrorists.

To create models of disease spread, Stacey uses high-performance computing (HPC) to churn through huge amounts of data quickly and efficiently. Later this month, she will welcome HPC experts from Canada and abroad to Guelph to attend what is billed as the premier Canadian event for HPC proponents, HPCS 2005. Running May 15 to 18, the symposium will fea ture keynote speakers David Bailey from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Jonathan Borwein, Canada Research Chair in Distributed and Collaborative Research at Dalhousie University.

This year's event will include presentation of a national long-range plan for HPC that organizers hope will spur federal investment in personnel as well as hardware.

"We're still looking for a budget line to sustain the human side of it," says Stacey, organizing chair of the Guelph conference.

She says HPC is becoming more and more vital for researchers modelling complicated scenarios, including designing and "test driving" tomorrow's car models, developing new materials and sorting through numerous compounds in search of a new drug. Scientists use HPC in financial mathematics, weather modelling, environmental modelling, quantum chemistry and astrophysics.

Stacev is also site leader for the regional SHARCNET computing consortium that includes 11 universities and colleges in Ontario linked together to share computing power. Similar regional consortia operate across Canada under the umbrella of C3 (Canadian High-Performance Computing Collaboratory), national advocacy body.

Both SHARCNET and C3 are sponsors of the HPCS conference.

Guelph will see installation of what Stacey calls "state-of-the-art" computers this year, thanks to about \$30 million in funding from the Can-

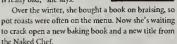
SHARCNET members at Guelph include researchers in CIS, the departments of Mathematics and Statistics, Chemistry and Physics, and the School of Engineering. Their studies include molecular modelling of drug transfer in and out of cells, simulation of mobile phone networks and watershed modelling.

CHRIS CARUSO

Faculty member in the Department of Integrative Biology, joined U of G in 2003

Prof. Chris Caruso loves to cook anything and everything. She finds it relaxing and says her preferences and specialties are based on whatever cookbook she's picked up most recently.

"I've overrun my cookbook space, and now they're stacked around the living room, which is really bad," she says.



Chris Caruso

"I was really skeptical at first," she says of the Naked Chef. "I've never been into cookbooks that focus on esthetics and presentation.3

Caruso grew up helping her mother in the kitchen, and that's likely where her interest in cooking comes from. She often cooks for guests who are invited to speak at the University, rather than taking them out to

Shortly after her arrival in Guelph, she joined a local organic food-buying club that purchases goods from Ontario Natural Food Co-op in Toronto.

"I've been in a food co-op in some way since I was an undergrad," says Caruso. "It's cheaper and it's a good way to get organic food and unusual items."

ALEX RODRIGUEZ

D.V.Sc. candidate in the Department of Clinical Studies

Alex Rodriguez puts in long days at OVC's large-animal clinic, but he finds ways to fit a variety of recreational activities into his busy and unpredictable schedule.

On the weekends, Rodriguez takes a few hours to go biking with friends and also plays pick-up soccer with other members of OVC on Sundays.

"Sometimes it's two on two, and sometimes we have 20 people playing. It all just depends."

Alex Rodriguez

He says it's a time-honoured tradition that gives him a chance to spend some casual time with his col-

Born and raised in Colombia, where he started playing soccer as a child, Rodriguez says the OVC players come from around the world and are all very friendly. "I don't even mind when they kick me," he laughs.

Last summer, Rodriguez took tango lessons and earned his scuba diving certificate. He also lives near a basketball court and shoots hoops with his housemates when the weather is good. In addition, he enjoys cross-country skiing, ice climbing and dancing.

"I'm taking salsa classes now," says Rodriguez, who enjoys attending local Latin parties.

This summer, he plans to learn to play hockey and do some reading. "It may take me a year to finish a book, but I finish."

KYLE HELLEWELL

after hours

Staff member in Admission Services since 2001

Three years ago, while attending College Royal, Kyle Hellewell and his girlfriend, Erin, met Natasha, a domestic short-haired tabby, at a booth for Barlee's Animal Rescue Network, a Guelph-based organization that finds foster homes for animals while they await permanent adoption. After learning about animal fostering, the couple called Barlee's inquir-



ing about bringing an animal into their home and were told there was one available.

"We actually managed to get Natasha," says Hellewell. "She stayed with us for about six months before being adopted."

Since then, they have continued to foster cats, with about 10 animals passing through their door since 2003. Some stay only one night; others have stayed for up to eight months.

"It depends how quickly people apply for them through our website," says Hellewell, who is also volunteer webmaster of the organization's site at www.

Originally from Tecumseh, Ont., and a 2004 graduate of the School of Engineering, he is also a fan of Guelph's bike trails, noting that he can't find the same

"The trails here are around the rivers and woodlands, and I like biking through there. It's really impressive."

Some of Hellewell's favourite trails take him from College Avenue to Guelph Lake. Noting that there is limited access to certain parts of the city and that street riding can be dangerous, he says he'd like to see more lanes designated for cyclists and more trails added.



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Searching for a Calming Effect

Researchers tackle disease that causes muscle spasms in animals

BY ALYSSA CALDER SPARK PROGRAM

A DISORDER that causes muscular spasms in many animal species is under the microscope of Guelph researchers who want to find the genes behind the disorder and methods to test for them. Knowing its causes, they believe, will help eliminate the disease through selective breeding.

Prof. Brad Hanna and graduate student Dan Finnigan of the Department of Biomedical Studies and Prof. Andrew Bendall, Molecular and Cellular Biology, are looking at domesticated animals such as cats, dogs, horses and Brazilian water buffalo (a food animal in its native country) to shed more light on myotonia congenita, a genetic muscle cell disorder that temporarily prevents muscles from relaxing after they contract. During these episodes, which usually last less than a minute. the animal shakes or shivers in place, unable to move

Although the condition may be disturbing to a pet owner, it doesn't seem to do any damage to the muscle, says Hanna, so it often goes undiagnosed. But the problem is more serious in large animals. Prolonged muscular rigidity causes the animals to fall over as they try to move, which increases the risk of injury to both the animals and the people.



Prof. Andrew Bendall, left, graduate student Dan Finnigan, centre, and Prof. Brad Hanna are studying a muscle cell disease that can cause animals such as their canine companion, Ally, to shake in place uncontroltably.

PHOTO BY VINCE FLIBY

ple working around them. And it's undesirable in animal athletes such as race horses.

"Imagine a race horse that is unable to move out of the starting gate or cattle that stiffen and collapse when they're herded," says Hanna.

He and Finnigan are focusing on how myotonia congenita works at the cellular level. In healthy animals, passageways in muscle cell membranes called chloride ion channels act as conduits for electrical nerve signals, which enter muscle cells and tell them to contract or relax. But animals afflicted with myotonia congenita have defective channels, causing muscles to contract but not relax right away.

That's where Hanna comes in. He's studying the ion channel function in animal patients suspected of having myotonia congenita. Currently, Finnigan and Bendall are using molecular biology techniques to look for mutations in the chloride ion channel genes. If a mutation is found, the genes responsible for the mutation are incorporated into cell cultures.

From there, Hanna can measure electrical currents in these cells to see whether the chloride ion channels are functioning properly. If they aren't, that means he and his colleagues may have found the mutation that causes myotonia congenita, which is the first step toward stopping the disease.

Hanna and Finnigan hope their research will lead to the development of blood tests for myotonia congenita, so breeders of cats, dogs, horses and livestock can eliminate the disease from their animals through selective breeding. As an added benefit, the researchers can also learn more about the relationship between structure and function of chloride ion channels in normal muscle, which could be of use to other muscle research in the future, Hanna says.

Also involved in this work are Profs. Joane Parent, Roberto Poma and Henry Staempfli and graduate student Ronaldo da Costa, Biomedical Sciences. This research is funded by the Morris Animal Foundation.

Economist Looks at How Employee Training Stacks Up

"Accumulating new occupational skills improves company wages, levels of human capital and the welfare of the economy"

BY COURTNEY DENARD SPARK PROGRAM

HE GROWTH of specialized occupations, an aging workforce and lightning-paced technological advances have made on-the-job training more important in developing an effective workplace. But many employee training programs aren't that helpful, and some organizations don't offer training at all.

That could be slowing down certain key sectors in the marketplace, says Prof. Miana Plesca, Economics. According to Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, training provided by corporations can make a significant difference in employee performance and corporate profitability, which translates into a healthier economy.

So, along with Gueorgui Kambourov of the University of Toronto and Iourii Manovskii of the University of Pennsylvania, Plesca is looking at how various training programs stack up and what makes employers choose whether to train their workers.

"It's important to understand how to increase a person's ability to acquire new skills," says Plesca. "Accumulating new occupations skills improves company wages, levels of human capital and the welfare of the economy."

She hopes to improve current training programs and skill sets specific to various workplaces, and influence Canadian employers, employees and policy-makers to put more effective resources toward training workers.

In particular, she wants to determine whether employment and skills training programs in private industry or govern-



Prof. Miana Plesca is comparing business sectors and organizations in hopes of developing more effective job training programs.

PHOTO BY VINCE FILBY

ment-sponsored programs are more effective. That, she says, will help researchers find a new way to measure how certain training programs benefit workers, which is the first step toward improving these programs.

Although the mission of government training programs is to improve Canada's workforce overall to create a sustainable economy, private organizations aim to improve their own workforce and increase profits, says

Plesca. She believes the private sector may invest too little in its workers and may be missing a big opportunity to produce a skilled employee base.

"When private organizations train employees, they're investing in a specific skill set. But there's a risk that the worker may leave after receiving training and go to another firm."

Plesca is also examining the reasons behind organizations' decisions to train their employ-

ees, whether they invest enough money in training and whether government sponsorship of industry programs is a viable option.

This study will review two data sets. The first is a public data set called the Adult Education and Training Survey. The second, the Workplace and Employee Survey (WES), is a privately established federal government data set collected over five years that she received from Industry Canada and Social Development Canada.

Little up-to-date research on employee training is available, says Plesca, so these recent data sets will help in developing new models for improving the effectiveness of training programs. She notes that WES is especially valuable because it presents data from both employers and employees, something that's unique in labour economics research.

Research in the United States has shown that on-the-job employee training, although at times expensive, is an investment worth making, says Plesca. According to several studies, these training programs can help create a skilled workforce that's more comfortable with adopting new technology and skills, which she believes is especially important with an aging workforce.

She plans to complete this research this summer. From there, she will compare her results with those of previous U.S. studies and hopes to eventually take her studies to the international level, comparing workplace training around the world.

This research is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of

International Work Gets CIDA Support

Continued from page 1

people around the world."

The Ghana project is headed by Prof. Spencer Henson, Agricultural Economics and Business. His goal is to enhance Ghana's capacity to undertake sustainable agribusiness development in a way that reduces poverty and promotes gender and social equality.

Agriculture is a central component of Ghana's economy, especially for women and for people living in rural areas, says Henson. "This is why agribusiness has been identified as one of the key ways to improve the lives of poor people in that country."

Many previous efforts have had limited effectiveness, due mostly to a lack of co-ordination and problems with long-term sustainability, he says. "The failure rate of new enterprises remains high, especially among those operated by women, and there is a significant impact on the ability of people to work their way out of poverty."

Henson will work closely with private and public institutions to expand and promote sustainable agribusiness development initiatives nationwide and to adapt their programs to specifically meet people's needs, especially women's. He has travelled around the world helping small-scale farmers and producers in developing countries meet the challenges of rapidly changing global supply chains for agricultural and food products. Most recently, his research trips have taken him to

Africa, India, the Caribbean and Latin America.

Prof. Charles Goubau, the head of rural innovation and training at Alfred, is leading the Morocco project, which aims to enhance standards of living in rural communities by improving water quality. He plans to establish water-treatment and recycling practices and to train engineers and technicians in wastewater management. Initiatives include redesigning engineering programs, setting up exchanges between Canada and Morocco, helping to solve environmental problems stemming from water pollution and working with the Moroccan Ministry of Agriculture to provide training directly to rural communities.

"It's a great honour for Collège d'Alfred to receive this award," says Goubau. "It's the result of many years of work in the development of international training programs in the different specialties of agriculture and in many countries, especially Africa. This award is particularly appreciated at Alfred because it was initiated at the college level and has repercussions at the University level."

Goubau is also heading a second CIDA project in Chad that will update university-level agricultural training programs. The goal is to produce graduates who can help change and improve Chad's agri-food sector and contribute to sustainable, environmentally responsible development.

CBS Prof Mentors Young Scientists

Continued from page 1

Dan-Hui Yang, works on viral DNA microarrays as a post-doc in Krell's lab.) Sowden hopes to combine her interest in chemistry with a business degree and perhaps do marketing work for a drug company. "I just find chemistry really fascinating," she says.

Krell thinks the numerous hours they spent on the project, including detailed replication of their results, will make for a winning entry at the national event, which he calls the "gold standard" for science fairs in Canada.

"They have it," he says, referring to their scientist-in-the-making qualities. "It's a good project, and they know what they're talking about. They think outside the box. They have good ideas about what to do next. They're thinking like scientists."

The next issue of At Guelph is May 18. The deadline for copy is May 10.

Forty years ago, his own project on a hormone called thyroxine won honourable mention at the national competition in Montreal.

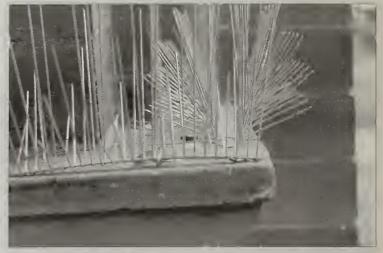
"After that, I decided not to go into physiology because it was too complicated."

Doug Gajic, a science and biotechnology teacher at Centennial, discussed the project with the students initially last fall but soon saw they could pursue the research largely on their own, using U of G resources.

Gajic says he's a great fan of school-university connections such as research co-op placements and mentorships.

"I think it's something we've underused in Guelph, something we should definitely pursue. I think it's a great connection."

Prof. Terry Beveridge, Molecular and Cellular Biology, and Massimo Marcone, a technician and adjunct professor in the Department of Food Science, also served as mentors for two other Centennial projects entered in the Aventis competition in April.



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of 8 bookstore, to be held in June. Anyone who submits the right answer by May 6 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56082. The following people correctly identified the April 20 photo as a rock garden outside the science complex: Yves Savoret, Fran Kitchen, Maurice Nelisher, Helen McKinnon, John Van Manen, Gillian Maurice, Lesley Craig, Steve Gazzola, Chris Pickard and Lea Berrang.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

Science Camp Program to Reflect Cultural Diversity

Continued from page 1

"Because it's remote here, they don't see other kids other than their relatives who might come from other reserves," says Havey. "Most of them don't get to leave the reserve very often."

Originally from the Ottawa area, she has taught at the school for two years and learned about S@GE from the school's former vice-principal. After viewing a video about the program, she started to organize her school's participation and says this is a "fantastic opportunity" that could potentially change her students' outlook on life and attitudes toward higher learning.

She's particularly pleased to see an aboriginal science component as part of the program and Wehkamp, who is of Algonquin heritage, as this year's S@GE celebrity.

Wehkamp, who spearheaded the first Aboriginal Student Association at U of G and was chosen as one of Canada's 12 national aboriginal role models last year, says she's honoured to be part of this year's S@GE.

"I really like working with kids, so I'm excited to get to know some of them and share some of my stories and experiences. I find it very encouraging to see how excited they are about learning."

She and Jaime Mishibinijima, a PhD student of Cree Metis heritage who is the aboriginal student adviser at the Aboriginal Resource Centre, will teach S@GE participants about aboriginal science by using drumming to explain the physics of sound. They will also talk about the cultural significance of drumming to aborigimal people and show participants how to build drums of their own.

"We had decided it was impor-

tant to add a new module to the program that reflected different perspectives in science and also reflected the cultural diversity of Canadians," says Gillian Joseph, a program development manager in OOL who works with faculty to develop the S@GE learning modules. "We had a First Nation school attend S@GE last year, and I was fascinated by the things I learned by having them as guests on our campus."

Joseph says Wehkamp will be a "terrific role model" for all S@GE participants because of her impressive work as an advocate for aboriginal people and her academic excellence in the field of environmental biology.

Havey says her students will benefit from seeing what Wehkamp has achieved through education and will come to believe that they can do it, too. "A lot of these kids tend not to have hope that they can accomplish that, so to see their own people in that sort of academic setting is great for them."

Wehkamp says it's important for everyone to see aboriginal people in leadership roles and high-profile positions because most non-aboriginal students learn about aboriginal people from a historical perspective.

"I want them to know that aboriginal people still exist, we aren't just historical figures, and we're very similar to them."

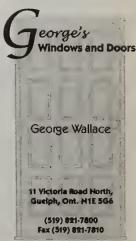
She has worked extensively with aboriginal youth and says the trip from Pikangikum will be an exciting one for the students.

"They live in a fly-in reserve, so it's not like they can drive to the city whenever they like. They're really isolated, so this will be a very different experience for them. I hope they realize that they can come to university, that they can leave the reserve to pursue their dreams and that education is extremely important. There's no reason why they can't live their dreams and maintain their cultural heritage."

During their trip, the students will also visit the Toronto Zoo, Canada's Wonderland and the CN

Now in its seventh year, S@GE is expected to draw more than 1,000 students to participate in the three-day sessions running between May 4 and June 17.

In addition to aboriginal science, learning topics include "Extreme Aquatic," "Rockin' Robots" and "The Geography of Natural Disasters." For more information about S@GE, visit www.open.uoguelph. ca/sage.



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

2002 Sunfire SL Coupe, two-door, five-speed, silver, tinted windows, second set of winter tires, one owner, highway driven, 104,000 kilometres, 826-7400.

2002 Honda Shadow Sabre, orange with orange flames, saddlebags, windshield, one owner, mint condition, 9,000 km, Jon, 846-8951, 835or jonschleeman@hotmail.

2001 Hyundai Accent GSI, five-speed, two-door hatchback, gold with grey interior, CD, e-tested, certified, 72,000 km, sgraham@

2001 Chevrolet Venture, V6, dual sliding doors, suitable for seven passengers, silver with grey interior, power doors and windows, air, AM/FM stereo, CD, keyless entry, e-tested, certified, well-maintained, Sonya, 826-7795 after 5:30 p.m.

1999 Chrysler Intrepid ES, platinum, automatic, four-door, V6, ABS, tilt, climate control, power doors and windows, traction control, cruise, overhead info centre, AM/FM/CD, rustproofing, e-tested, certified, one owner, well-maintained, 170,000 km, 766-9625 or r.grift@sympatico.ca.

1999 Saturn SL2, four-door automatic, black, air, non-smoker, 196,000 highway kms, great condition, 519-995-2767.

Moving sale, appliances and furniture; for complete listing and photos, send e-mail to jmiller@ uoguelph.ca.

Bunk beds with hardwood frame. natural light wood stain, Sears mattresses, storage drawers in base, excellent condition, Ext. 54808 or 846-0107

30-inch Kelvinator stove, bisque colour; Maytag built-in dishwasher, white; small tabletop convection oven, all items in working order, 837-3809.

Four Ford aluminum mags with Michelin all-terrain tires, P215/74 R15, like new, fit Ford SUV or truck, Julie, Ext. 54861, 824-3812 evenings or jde@uoguelph.ca.

Panasonic PV-GS15 video camera, one-year warranty, ysavoret@ uoguelph.ca.

Black & Decker hedge trimmer, cordless, in original box; various perennials; large square coffee table, contemporary style; garden accents, large toadstools made from hypertufa materials, 821-1879.

Side-by-side refrigerator freezer, 19 cubic feet, excellent condition;

two-drawer oak-finish desk with multi-position office chair; 25-inch Sanyo colour TV, like new, 848-3441 after 5;30 p.m. or mddennis@ uoguelph.ca.

Antique Eastlake sideboard, original hardware, dovetailing, solid, great condition, Michael, mbrunt@ uoguelph.ca.

Set of women's golf clubs, graphite shafts, golf bag, 836-0461 or dentrainor@sympatico.ca.

FOR RENT

Loft studio apartment in century home in mature downtown neighbourhood, recently renovated, open plan, on-street parking, close to bus routes, available in September, \$750 a month inclusive, 821-7419 or lreid@uoguelph.ca.

Four-bedroom historical downtown home, 2,000 square feet, sunrooms, two baths, hardwood floors, leaded glass windows, laundry, parking for four cars, non-smokers, \$1,600 a month plus utilities, 767-2381 or 826-0520.

Four- or five-bedroom raised bungalow in Campus Estates area, 30-minute walk to University, close to bus stop, parking for three cars, garage, available immediately, \$350 per room plus utilities, 822-2769.

Bright basement bachelor apartment, close to bus route, 30-minute walk to campus, close to running/ walking trails, non-smokers, available Sept. 1, \$550 a month inclusive, 767-1922 or trudys@uoguelph.ca.

Two large furnished rooms in high basement, separate entrance, parking for one vehicle, kitchen, laundry, 10-minute walk to campus and mall, prefer couple or grad student, non-smokers, no pets, available immediately, \$800 a month inclusive, first and last months' rent required, Paul, 761-1568.

One room in two-bedroom apartment for summer sublet in downtown Toronto, Spadina and Dupont, near TTC, parking, female only, available until Aug. 31, \$450 a month inclusive, 416-929-9998 or 514-286-4887.

Three-bedroom cottage on Lake Huron near Tobermory, fully equipped, \$1,400 a week, 856-4786.

Cottage on Georgian Bay island, great swimming, fishing and sailing, spectacular view, quiet and peaceful, Ken, 822-7705 evenings.

Three-bedroom lakefront cottage on Lake Simcoe with additional three-bedroom cottage, dishwasher, washer/dryer, \$1,500 a week for July and August, \$1,200 a week for June and September, 519-993-5590.

One-bedroom ground-level apartment in home in south end, private entrance, suitable for professional, mature student or retired person, no stairs, parking for one car, nonsmoker, no pets, \$675 a month plus hydro, long-term preferred, leave message at 824-7486.

Furnished two-bedroom condo in Phoenix Mill, for short or longer term, Jacuzzi, two bathrooms, laundry, parking, controlled entrance, fitness room, available June 1, \$1,500 a month inclusive, Intelrent@hot mail.com or 823-1857.

Furnished three-bedroom house in south end, gas, central air, two-car garage, deck, fenced yard, on bus route, available mid-May, Beren, berenrob@uoguelph.ca.

WANTED

SmartSquares game tiles and instruction booklet in English, or willing to buy the box set of SmartSquares, Cathy, 821-7512.

AVAILABLE

Memberships in Ignatius Organic Farm CSA for 2005 growing season, local organic fresh vegetables, 824-1250, Ext. 245.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, Cobi, leave message at 836-8680 or cdemmers@uoguelph.

Classifieds is a free service available to members of the University, Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

"Bird Sounds" is the theme of a workshop with Richard Tofflemire May 25 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$55. The deadline for registration and payment is May 11. Call Ext.

Naturalist Chris Earley leads a workshop on sparrows May 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are required by May 13.

Justin Peter discusses housing cavity-nesting birds May 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$45. The deadline for registration and payment is May 13

"Plant Propagation" is the focus of horticulturist Scan Fox June 7. Two sessions are being offered — from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$40. Registration and payment are due May 24.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's brown bag lunch series continues May 17 at noon with painter Eileen MacArthur discussing her exhibition "pieces missing."

Registration has begun for the art centre's summer art camps, which offer eight week-long classes for children aged seven to 11, beginning hulv 4. Registration is in person only.

LECTURES

The 2005 Ann Oaks Lecture Series in the Biological Sciences presents Deborah Delmer, associate director

of food security for the Rockefeller Foundation in New York, May 11 at 7 p.m. in Rozanski 103. She will discuss "Agriculture in Developing Nations: Challenges and Opportunities." A reception will follow.

Prof. Dan Thomas, Chemistry, a candidate for the position of associate dean of the B.Sc. program, presents "The Challenges and Opportunities for the Bachelor of Science in the Next Five Years" May 26 at 9 a.m. in OVC 1715. Everyone is welcome and is invited to submit comments on the candidate by May 30 at 8:30 a.m. to College of Arts dean Jacqueline Murray, chair of the selection committee, at jacqueline.murray@uoeuelph.ca.

NOTICES

OPIRG-Guelph, Science for Peace and Toronto's Act for the Earth present a GMO forum on "Revering the Seed" May 14 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Bullring. It will feature videos and a talk by Percy Schmeiser, the Saskatchewan farmer whose case on seed patent rights was decided in the Supreme Court of Canada in 2004. Discussion will follow.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic offers a class on relaxation and stress management skills beginning May 17 at 8 p.m. in UC 429. It runs Tuesdays and Thursdays for 12 sessions. The clinic is also offering a five-session better sleep program beginning May 24 at 6:30 p.m. in UC 335. For more information, pick up a pamphlet at the Information Desk on UC Level 1, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

OVC's Wild Bird Clinic and Aviant/Exotics Clinic present "All About Birds" May 14 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Lifetime Learning Centre. Guest speakers are Michael Taylor of the Aviant/Exotics Clinic, pathobiology professor Dale Smith, Mark Hagen of Rolf C. Hagen Inc. and Dianne Holloway, president of the Amazona Society. Cost is \$40 general, \$25 for students, until May 6, \$60 after. For registration information, visit www.spring-fling.ca.

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute invites applications for its 2006/07 India Studies Fellowships, which provide travel, research and living allowances for Canadian scholars, librarians, graduate students and artists while they study in India. The deadline for submissions is June 30. For details, visit www.sici.org/2004 shastri/english/indiastudies.htm.

Information about the U of G Library's summer hours is available on the web at www2.lib.uoguelph. ca/facilities/hours.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Christine Carey, Environmental Biology, is May 6 at 9 a.m. in Graham 3301. The thesis is "Molecular-Based Methods for the Detection and Quantification of Infectious Cryptosporidium parvum Oocysts in Environmental Samples." The advisers are Profs. Hung Lee and lack Trevors.

The final examination of Monica Seguin, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, is May 16 at 9 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "An Investigation Into Environmental and Social Factors That Affect Sows Housed in Groups." The adviser is Prof. Tina Widowski.

The final examination of John Simpson, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is May 20 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Mallard Duckling Survival in the Great Lakes Region." The adviser is Prof. Tom Nudds.

The final examination of PhD candidate Mark Drever, Integrative Biology, is June 9 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Nest Success, Climate Variability and Population Dynamics of Prairie Ducks in an Agricultural Landscape." The adviser is Prof. Tom Nudds.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A garage sale fundraiser in support of Guelph BreastStrokes runs May 7 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hartsland Market Square. Donations are welcome and can be dropped off the day of the sale between 7 and 10 a.m. To arrange for pickup, call 822-8878.

"Puttin' on the Ritz," a women's barbershop quartet and chorus competition, runs May 27 to 29 in War Memorial Hall. The quartet contest is Friday at 8 p.m., and the chorus contest begins Saturday at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door. For more information, call Marisa Phillips at Ext. 58712.

The Guelph Concert Band and Swing Band present a fundraising dinner, dance and silent auction

called "And All That Jazz!" May 14 at 6 p.m. at the Ramada Inn. For tickets, call 763-3000.

Wellington County Museum and Archives presents the exhibition "Marking Passage," featuring the cemeteries of Wellington County, until June 12.

Source One's Youth Job Fair for people aged 15 to 30 runs May 11 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Old Quebec Street Shoppes & Suites. It will feature Wellington County employers with more than 200 seasonal and part-time positions available.

McCrae House's annual fundraising Poppy Push will again offer several varieties of poppies and perennials for sale. The event runs May 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. A yard sale of garden items is also planned. At 11 a.m., McCrae House will mark the official opening of a new exhibition, "A Sister 1s Born: Mary Christie Geills McCrae."

To mark Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis presents three free workshops: "Stranger Sexual Assault" May 5, "Acquaintance Sexual Assault" May 19 and "How to Help a Friend Who Has Been Sexually Assaulted" May 26. They begin at 6 p.m. at the Sexual Assault Centre, 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 823-5806.

The Elora Festival Singers, conducted by Noel Edison, present "Music of the Americas" May 7 at 8 p.m. at St. John's Church in Elora. For tickets, call 846-0331 or visit www.elorafestival singers.org.



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MA student David Hornsby is off to Tufts University this fall as a Fulbright Fellow. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Grad Student Is Fulbright Fellow

Political scientist will spend year in Boston studying with expert in international environmental policy

BY ANDREW VOWLES

David Hornsby will spend next year at Tufrs University in Boston under a Canada-U.S. Fulbright Fellowship. The \$15,000 US award will allow Hornsby, a master's student in political science and longtime U of G student leader, to study trade and the environment.

"This is an important accolade for Guelph," says president Alastair Summerlee. "It speaks highly of the calibre of students we produce. I am absolutely delighted for David and for the University. He clearly deserves the award. He has worked very hard and will be an outstanding ambassador for Canada in the program."

The Fulbright program is an international educational exchange program designed to increase mutual understanding between the United States and other countries. Since the program was established in 1946, more than 250,000 people chosen for academic merit and leadership potential have studied and taught in partner countries.

Alumni include Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners, ambassadors and artists, prime ministers and heads of states, scientists and professors, and CEOs.

The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program is nearly 15 years old and has graduated about 700 students and scholars.

"I see the Fulbright Fellowship as promoting deep connections between countries," says Hornsby, who learned in late February that his application had been recommended. Appropriately enough, he got the word in an e-mail received while en route to CBC Radio's Toronto studio to tape a commentary about his research on the implications of the North American Free Trade Agreement for Canada's commitment to

Continued on page 10

Ontario Budget Welcome News for Universities

Province announces significant new investments in accessibility, quality

was front and centre in the provincial budget released May 11, with the government announcing significant new investments in accessibility and quality.

"This is very good news for students and the university sector," says president Alastair Summerlee. "We all firmly believe that the future of the province and the country is linked to the future of our students, and last week's announcements provide an important sense of commitment from the provincial government."

Summerlee says he's pleased that the government recognized the need for multi-year investments for post-secondary education as recommended by Bob Rae. In his report on Ontario's ingher education system, Rae said operating grants to Ontario's universities and colleges should be increased by at least \$1.3

billion by 2007/2008 to maintain quality and improve accessibility. Rae's recommendations received strong support from U of G faculty, students, staff, alumni and friends, as well as members of the local community. In its budget, the government promised \$1.2 billion in new funding over five years.

The government also committed funding for graduate student support and research chairs, and outlined new requirements for public accountability.

"We are very pleased to see that the budget also includes many of the recommendations made by U of G's Presidential Task Force on Accessibility to University Education, including providing upfront grants and improving accessibility for first-generation, disabled, aboriginal and francophone university students" says Summerlee.

(For more on the president's

reaction to the provincial budget, see page 4.)

The province also announced the creation of a special \$3-million endowment to fund a chair in agricultural research at U of G.

"We welcome this new investment because the commitment of the provincial government to agriculture is vital to Ontario," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research).

Summerlee adds that U of G's budget included an estimated amount for increased investment by the government.

"At this stage, we continue to believe that our budget is based on the right assumptions, but we will have to wait for further clarification from the ministry before the final projections can be determined."

As always, it will likely be several months before the allocation of Continued on page 10

Women of Distinction Honoured

YMCA-YWCA recognizes achievements of U of G faculty, librarian, student, grad

EVEN MEMBERS of the U of G community were named recipients of the YMCA-YWCA of Guelph's 10th annual Women of Distinction Awards May 12 at the River Run Centre.

Fifty women were nominated for their achievements in eight categories: arts and culture; business, labour, the professions and entrepreneurs; education and training; science and technology; voluntary community service; wellness and health; young woman of distinction; and lifetime achievement.

University professor emerita Aggie Fernando, a faculty member in the Department of Pathobiology from 1966 to 1996, took home the award for lifetime achievement. She was honoured for her perseverance in following her dream of a career in medicine and for her contributions to research on infectious diseases relevant to both humans and animals.

Fernando began her career in human medicine in Sri Lanka in the 1950s, studied in three countries and became an internationally recognized researcher. In 2000, she was awarded the prestigious Wardle Medal from the Canadian Society of Zoologists for her outstanding contributions to parasitology. A pioneer in her field, she continues to do research and is committed to inspiring female students and helping them develop integrity, pride and professional success.

The award for science and technology was presented to Prof. Kelly Meckling, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences. Meckling has a distinguished career in cancer research that spans more than 20 years and has received several awards, including ones from the National Cancer Institute of Canada. She specializes in nutrition and the prevention and treatment of disease, and her research has been described as being ahead of its time. In addition to lecturing at schools and for community organizations, she is a mentor to many and strives to inspire women to pursue careers in science.

Receiving the award in the education and training category was Janet Kaufman, head of information services at the U of G Library and codirector of the Learning Commons. In 2003, Kaufman received U of G's Distinguished Librarian Award and the Ontario College and University Library Association's award for outstanding achievements in academic librarianship for the creation and design of the Learning Commons. She is currently vice-president of the Ontario Library Association and is heavily involved in community service and volun-

Marta McCarthy, director of the II of G Choir and an instructor in the School of Fine Art and Music, was honoured in the arts and culture category. McCarthy is recognized as one of the best young choral conductors in Canada, and she serves as the librarian for Choirs Ontario. She has conducted professional and semi-professional choirs in Toronto and adjudicated for the Kiwanis Festival. She recently composed a choral piece for a developmentally challenged choir and has spoken at conferences about making the choral experience accessible for those who are differently abled.

Political science instructor Karen Farbridge received the award in the business, labour, the professions and entrepreneurs category. Farbridge was the first woman to serve as mayor of the City of Guelph and has worked to

Continued on page 2

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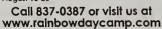
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- July 18-22
- July 25-29 August 2-12° (9 day)
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from the president

Scholarship at Centre of U of G

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes nments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

OF G RECENTLY CELEBRATED the 100th anniversary of Albert Einstein's annus mirabilis - "miracle when he published five landmark papers, vear including the theory of relativity and the quantum theory. Astonishingly, he was only 26 at the time

People gathered in War Memorial Hall to reflect on the difference Einstein made in the world. Indeed, his contributions and accomplishments - both in the sciences and in human rights - are immense. But for me, the celebration assumed a deeper, more significant role. It became a touchstone for the wonder and importance of scholarship and its potential to transform the world. It also reminded me that scholarship in both teaching and research is at the intellectual centre of the University.

It's appropriate that U of G singled out Einstein for remembrance. One of the many reasons he stands out as one of the 20th century's towering intellectuals is that he devoted so much of his life to contemplating the significance of scholarship and the role it plays in advancing the human condition. In his own lifetime, he faced repeated adversity - anti-Semitism, hostility toward his scientific ideas, resistance to his humane ideas - yet he overcame these obstacles and, in the process, influenced

Einstein devoted a great deal of thought to the process of human thought. "Curiosity," he once wrote, "has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvellous structure of reality. It is enough if one merely tries to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity."

Einstein took risks. His brilliance and sensitivity often placed him on the outside of conventional thought and society. He wasn't afraid to remain outside the mainstream - I still see the posters of him sticking out his tongue, thumbing his nose at authority, wearing ragged old sweaters — yet the sheer significance and weight of his scholarship ensured that his ideas reached vast

audiences. Just as it did during Einstein's lifetime, scholarship continues to transform our world in meaningful ways, and there is nothing more exciting than being a part of a community of scholars, especially one as vibrant as the University of Guelph. As I gaze out at the amazing accomplishments of our scholars, I find the same spirit of inquiry and engagement that Einstein championed. And you can never determine where that scholarship and curiosity will lead.

Who would have anticipated that, in 1910, a professor in the Ontario Agricultural College would introduce a new course into the farm-focused curriculum on Canadian literature? He taught what is believed to be the first-ever class on this subject. At the time, he was probably not considering the long-term implications of his actions. He possessed that splendid spark of "curiosity" that Einstein spoke of. He was simply interested in the topic and believed others would be, too. That one Canadian literature class established a crucial precedent. It influenced and set the tone for how the subject is taught across the country today.

Fast forward to the present, where we have abundant examples of U of G scholars who continue to make pioneering advancements. They contemplate new ideas, visit unexplored vistas and take risks, driven by that inspiring quest for knowledge that Einstein so eloquently celebrated.

As often as possible, we pay homage to the achievements of our scholars. Recently, I had the opportunity to celebrate the winners of the 2005/2006 Distinguished Professor Awards. The honours recognize faculty who have consistently demonstrated a commitment to teaching and research. These 36 scholars have received numerous academic accolades and collectively represent the overall high quality of the entire academic community. Several of them commented that this award was one of the greatest honours they had received. The recipients were singled out for excellence by their colleagues, which was an obvious source of pride. But more significantly, they represent the continuing rich legacy of Einstein's vision of an open society of free inquiry, where women and men who possess the deep drive of curiosity are rewarded and celebrated for their efforts.

I have had the privilege of sharing in other celebrations of outstanding achievements. I've participated in events where faculty received the Central Student Association's Teaching Excellence Award, the School of Engineering's Professor of the Year Award, the U of G Faculty Association's awards for teaching excellence, the College of Arts and College of Biological Science teaching awards, the School of Hotel and Tourism Management's Faculty Member of the Year honour and the OAC Alumni Association's Distinguished Faculty Awards. And each time, I have taken heart that Einstein's maxim "Never lose a holy curiosity" endures.

So today, a century after the annus mirabilis, I am deeply moved by the professors who take seriously their roles as teachers and mentors to future generations of great minds. They continue to arm their students with the knowledge and open-mindedness necessary to face the challenges of the future.

In addition, many of our faculty have taken on the role of the "public intellectual," encouraging community awareness of social issues, engaging in discussions on important issues of the day outside the classroom, pushing for positive change and conducting effective and socially responsible research. All these endeavours are vitally important if universities are to be the moral, social and intellectual centres of society.

Kudos for Women's Achievements

Continued from page 1

create positive environmental change in the areas of conservation, water protection, waste management, transportation, SmartGuelph and a community energy plan. Through her relationship with U of G, she developed new businesses in the life sciences and environmental technologies sectors.

Third-year agricultural business student Jeanine Wallace was named the young woman of distinction. She

was honoured as a role model for young women in encouraging their participation in agriculture-related fields. Wallace is a board member of the Ontario Junior Farmers and is also involved in 4-H, the Canadian National Exhibition and the Royal Winter Fair. She has been a vocal advocate for agriculture, food production and food safety as a member of the Young Ambassadors Program through Ontario Pork and the

Ontario Cattlemen's Association.

Guelph graduate Cate Welsh received the award for voluntary community service. Welsh, who earned a BA from Guelph in 1987 and is the first female police sergeant with the Guelph Police, has been a long-standing community volunteer. She has worked with a variety of organizations, including Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph, Girl Guides of Canada. Care for Kids and Special Olympics



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STAFF E-MAIL ACCOUNTS TO BE CONVERTED TO NEW FORMAT

As part of Computing and Communications Services' continuing efforts to improve the campus e-mail service, staffe-mail accounts will be converted to a new format June 5. As a result, e-mail service will be unavailable for staff from midnight to 6 p.m. To prepare for this, staff are advised to consolidate their e-mail folders. For detailed information about e-mail conversion and consolidation, visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/ email/utilities/conversion or call the CCS Help Centre at Ext. 58888.

OAC LECTURE TO EXPLORE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN CAR MANUFACTURING, AGRI-FOOD

The Ontario Agricultural College's public lecture series continues May 25 with Gord Surgeoner, president of Ontario Agri-Food Technologies, and University of Windsor professor Peter Frise, program leader and CEO of AUTO21, a federal Network of Centres of Excellence, discussing "Fifty Kilograms of Every Car From Agriculture: Is It Possible?" The free talk, which begins at 5:30 p.m. in Room 1714 of OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre, will explore the economic, environmental and social benefits of a burgeoning partnership between Ontario's two biggest industries, agri-food and auto manufacturing.

CFRU TO HOST NATIONAL CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY RADIO CONFERENCE

As part of its 25th-anniversary celebrations, CFRU 93.3 FM will host the annual conference of the National Campus and Community Radio Association June 3 to 8 at the University of Guelph. The conference will give members of community radio an opportunity to share information, network and develop skills through a wide range of workshops. A women's conference will run concurrently. In addition to people working in radio, CFRU invites anyone with an interest in radio, music, TV or independent journalism to register. For more information, call Kurt Krausewitz or Valerey Laverge at Ext. 56920 or visit www.cfru.ca/ncrc.

U OF G HOSTS FUNDRAISING DINNER FOR CANADIAN CULINARY BOOK AWARDS

The next in a series of fundraising dinners in support of the annual Canadian Culinary Book Awards, which are sponsored by U of G and Cuisine Canada, runs May 25 at the Atrium in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, The dinner begins at 6 p.m. and will be prepared by U of G chef Simon Day and Liaison College chef Tom Hummel. At 4:30 p.m., U of G Library archivist Lorne Bruce will conduct a tour of the University's cookbook collection. Dinner speaker is Liz Driver, author of a soon-to-be-released bibliography of Canadian cookbooks. Guests are encouraged to bring their favourite family cookbooks for Driver to analyze. Tickets are \$45. To order, call Penny Bateson at Liaison College in Kitchener, 519-743-8335.

Cancer Society Supports Groundbreaking Research

Biochemist receives funding for ongoing efforts to improve chemotherapy

BY LORI BONA HUNT

PROF. FRANCES SHAROM, Molecular and Cellular Biology, has received more than \$713,000 from the Canadian Cancer Society to support ongoing groundbreaking research on a membrane protein involved in the resistance of tumours to chemotherapy drugs.

Sharom is among 81 researchers nationwide who will share in nearly \$21 million in new funding from the organization.

"My research group and I are delighted to have been funded for another five years to continue the important challenge of overcoming cancer, a disease that has touched almost all Canadians in some way," she says.

Peter Goodhand, CEO of the Canadian Cancer Society's Ontario division, says all projects are rigorously reviewed by an expert panel of scientists to ensure that only the most promising are funded and that grants are awarded to only the best researchers.

Sharom will use the funding to continue her research into the membrane transport protein Paglycoprotein. The protein is important in non-cancerous cells because it's thought to protect the body against toxic natural products by pumping them out of the cells. In tumours, however, its action has been described as a "double-edged sword" because it also pumps out chemotherapy drugs, enabling the cells to survive and grow.

She hopes that, by identifying how this process works, her research could help solve the problem of cancer cells becoming resistant to the drugs designed to kill them. Her long-term goal is to develop new treatments for improving chemotherapy in drug-resistant forms of cancer.

"During the next five years, we will continue our work on the P-glycoprotein molecule, exploring how so many different chemotherapy drugs can interact with this protein and how ATP energy is

harnessed to pump them out across the cell membrane," she says.

Sharom, who holds a prestigious Canada Research Chair in Membrane Protein Biology, studies the structure and function of several membrane proteins using novel biochemical and biophysical approaches. About one-third of all sequences in the human genome encode membrane proteins, which play a vital role in cancer, genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis, and bacterial and viral infections. Yet scientists have only rudimentary knowledge of their structure and how they carry out their biological function at the molecular level, she says.

She is the author of more than 100 refereed journal articles and book chapters, and is a past president of the Canadian Society of Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology.

Sharom's work is also supported by Science and Engineering Research Canada and the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation.

CUNNINGHAM IS NEW CHAIR OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chuck Cunningham, director of Communications and Public Affairs, has been appointed chair of the Guelph Chamber of Commerce. He has served as U of G's representative on the chamber since 2001 and was named first vice-chair last year. His term as chair runs until July 1, 2006.

AND THE WINNERS ARE ...

Winners of this year's Project SOY (Soybean Opportunities for Youth) and Guelph Creative Recycling Initiative (GCRI) contest announced in April. In Project SOY, which asks U of G students to develop new uses for soybeans, first place in the undergraduate/graduate category went to Sandra Kolaczek, Sayward Fetterly and Jessica Speziale for Decadence Doughnuts. Top honours in the GCRI contest, in which students use byproducts of the rendering industry, went to Jonathan Aleong and Lena Lam for Orga-Culture, a line of organic gardening products. In the diploma category, the first-place winners were Sylvie Dandurand of Collège d'Alfred for a soy-based soup called Bouggie and Darryl Avris of Ridgetown College for a study on using meat and bone meal as a fertilizer source for corn.

Three Co-chairs Named for Campus United Way

OME SEPTEMBER, six helping hands will steer the University's 2005 United Way campaign.

Irene Thompson, assistant director of residence life, will serve as co-chair for a second term along with new recruits Prof. Fred Ramprashad, associate dean of the B.Sc. degree program, and Central Student Association board member Aiden Abram, who is completing his final year of a double major in international development and Earth surface science.

This is the first time in recent history that the U of G United Way campaign has had a student co-

"We recognized that students have been making a strong contribu-



tion to the United Way campaign in recent years," says Thompson. "Our volunteer committee decided that creating a new co-chair position would be the best way to profile student involvement."

Students contributed more than

\$7,000 to the 2004 campaign; one of the most successful events was a tuition lottery suggested and co-organized by Abram.

Ramprashad has been a longtime volunteer for the United Way campaign on campus. In 2003, he even donned a clown costume to promote a rainy-day kick-off barbecue. He invites interested staff, faculty and students to contact him, Thompson or Abram to volunteer as a United Way convenor or canyasser.

Contributions to the United Way campaign have risen steadily in the past few years, and the 2005 co-chairs hope to continue the tradition by improving on last year's total of \$348.179.28.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

President Alastair Summerlee is calling for nominations for the 2005 President's Awards for Exemplary Stan Service. The awards rec ognize employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and/ or who have made significant contributions to the University community beyond what is expected of their positions. All non-academic full- and part-time staff who have been employed for at least two years are eligible. The nomination deadline is May 31. For more details, visit www.uoguelph.ca/ president/exemplaryservice.shtml. A hard copy of the nomination is available in the president's office.

The following members of the University have recently retired:

- Ahmed Ali, Plant Agriculture
- Alex Benben, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Ken Cooke, Classroom Technical
 Support
- Ron Elmslie, Computing and Communications Services
- Guiseppina Facchini, Hospitality
 Services
- Sharon Franchetto, Physical Resources
- William Harris, Biomedical Sciences
 Margaret Hedley, Family Rela-
- tions and Applied Nutrition

 Bonnie Hamilton, Clinical Stud-
- Ina Hutchings, Psychology
- Gerta Moray, Fine Art and Music
- Stella Rose, Custodial Services
- Colette Tracy, Kemptville College
 Tony, Van, Dreumel, Animal
- Tony Van Dreumel, Animal Health Lab, Laboratory Services.

Canadian Architects Pay Tribute to Guelph-Humber Building

HE ROYAL Architectural Institute of Canada has awarded the University of Guelph-Humber Building a 2005 Award of Excellence for innovation in architecture. The building, which opened last May, was one of seven recognized May 5 in Edmonton.

"The specific innovation being recognized is the integration of the biofilter wall into the building design," says Prof. Michael Nightingale, vice-provost and chief academic officer of the University of Guelph-Humber.

A major feature of the building's atrium, the biofilter wall is a four-storey "living wall" containing more than 1,000 plants that improve air quality and create a natural source of indoor fresh air.

During the conceptual stage of the building, project architect Birgit Siber of Diamond and Schmitt Architects Inc. proposed the biofilter wall as a way to incorporate a feature associated with Guelph's research tradition, says Nichtingale.

The jury that judged the biennial awards said the biofiltration wall ac-

cepted risks associated with emerging technologies while trying to address the challenges of sustainability and provided robust technological innovation with research application potential.

Nightingale says he's "delighted" that the wall has been recognized as a significant innovation in architecture. "Since its inception, Guelph-Humber has been innovative in a number of ways, and now that's coupled with an award for its leading-edge architectural environment."

Ontario Budget Significant Change in Direction

HE PROVINCE RELEASED its long-awaited budget May 11, nearly a month after the University of Guelph had to submit its preliminary 2005/2006 operating budget to Board of Governors. Faced with an estimated \$11-million budget shortfall and no confirmation of government funding commitments, the University submitted a budget that included a campus-wide 4.5-per-cent cut. At Guelph writer Lori Bona Hunt sat down with president Alastair Summerlee to get his reaction to the Ontario budget and its effect on U of G's budget.

LBH: The government's budget includes historic multi-year investments in post-secondary education. Overall, base funding to universities, colleges and training programs will increase by \$6.2 billion — or 39 per cent — over five years. How does this change things for Guelph?

AS: The provincial budget represents a significant change in direction for post-secondary education with promises for major investments that will allow the system to start a rebuilding after years of government underfunding and program cuts. As you know, the Rae report called for significant investment in the post-secondary system, and I am pleased to see that the government has responded positively to the recommendations of that report. When we prepared the University preliminary budget, we made assumptions about the reinvestment from the government. There are still a number of items in the budget that need clarification, but at this point, we do not see that there is any reason to revise this estimate or change

LBH: But this is the largest investment the government has made in higher education in 40 years. How can that not change things for us? hood of these investments. We listened carefully to the signals government was sending since the Rae review and in advance of the budget, and using this information, our staff did a very good job in making assumptions and in predicting additional revenues. We estimated that we would receive about \$10.4 million in new revenue in this next budget year, including about \$5 million as a result of the Rae review. Early analysis of the provincial budget suggests that our assumptions were correct. But our estimated cost increases for next year are about \$21.5 million, so even if we are precisely on target about the expected new money, we are short. Hence the need for the across-the-board budget cut

LBH: What about our enrolment? I know that some of the new government funding is directed to support higher numbers of stu-

AS: We have reached maximum size at the main campus and will not be growing our undergraduate enrolment in 2005/2006. As a result, we will not benefit from the funding directed for this purpose. There will, however, be an increase in enrolment at the University of Guelph-Humber, so that program will benefit. We can also now plan to significantly increase graduate enrolment as part of our integrated planning because support for graduate students represented the second-largest portion of the government's budget investment.

LBH: So what is the status of the 4.5-per-cent reduction? How much money was it intended to generate?

AS: There has been very careful planning concerning the 4.5-per-cent cut, and the budget reductions will still go forward. The vice-presidents have met with deans, directors and chairs to come up with creative ways to cut costs and generate new revenue, and I also asked the community for input and advice (see accompanying story). The reduction amounts to about \$8.4 million. As painful as it is, I firmly believe the entire University community should have a shared appreciation of the financial challenges we face and play an active role in finding solutions.

LBH: Will there be layoffs?

AS: We are still waiting for things to be finalized, but it appears that far fewer positions will be declared redundant than was previously thought. We had more faculty and staff opt for early returnment than we anticipated, which reduces the impact on other positions.

LBH: The government has said it will invest more than \$300 million over the next five years in student financial assistance programs. How will this affect U of G?

AS: Systemwide, there will be huge changes in the amount and nature of student financial assistance. First, and most important, the government will reintroduce student grants. These will be upfront grants that will cover tuition for the most needy students. Funding was also promised for specific programs to support under-represented groups such as aboriginal students, new Canadians, francophone students and students with disabilities. In addition, the government announced changes to the Ontario Student Assistance Program. I am very pleased that the government is focusing on improving accessibility and particularly pleased to see that a number of recommendations from the report of U of G's Task Force on Accessibility to University Education appear in the budget.

LBH: What about tuition?

AS: Tuition will remain frozen for 2005/2006, and universities will receive money to help off-set the lost revenue. The government promises to develop a new framework for tuition in the coming year, and it will be important to take an active part in these discussions.

LBH: What are some components of the budget you are pleased about?

AS: Overall, I am pleased with the change in direction of the government. The Liberal government came to power on a promise of turning the tide in terms of the prominence of higher education in provincial funding. This is clearly happening. In addition, the government provided targeted funding for facilities renewal that will help us address some of the critical items of deferred maintenance, introduced a new program for endowed chairs and provided endowments to support graduate students. There are some interesting comments in the budget that may provide additional support for capital development and rural development, but we will need more information on these items before it's possible to understand the implications.

LBH: What are some of the problem areas in the provincial budget?

AS: There continues to be no built-in protection relative to inflution. As I've said before, if the University just "stood still," costs would still increase by four to six per cent each year. In addition, although some money was set aside for infrastructure renewal and we might be able to use some of that for deferred maintenance, it appears to be in the form of loan arrangements, and the University does not want to take on further debt at this point. The government has not, however, released details about this infrastructure support scheme, so we will have to wait and see.

LBH: What about our new buildings? Will any

of the current building projects be affected by the government's budget?

AS: As part of its overall plans for growth, the University made important investments over the past number of years to attract and retain the brightest and best students, faculty and staff. This effort has been a tremendous success, but if we wish to keep these people here at the University, we must also provide leading-edge facilities that support them in their pursuit of knowledge. We must also do all we can to address deferred maintenance and energy retrofit, so we can reduce -- or at least contain -- operating costs of these facilities. It is essential, therefore, for the long-term success of the University that we continue with our building projects. For the most part, capital projects are funded from a number of different sources that are not available to support the operating budget.

LBH: What were the biggest challenges the University faced this year with its own budges?

AS: Basically, the biggest challenge is that a number of costs are growing significantly faster than new revenue is. Many of these increases could not be avoided because they're related to critical deferred maintenance; personnel costs, including pensions and benefits; safety and security services; and utilities and equipment costs. This is why our only option was reallocating resources within the operating budget to support key areas of the institution, to continue to support innovation and to look for ways to become more efficient.

LBH: Will you be making any changes to the budget or planning process for next

As: Much of the government's new support is multi-year funding, and its new requirements for accountability are multi-year as well, which means there's a need for a more integrated planning approach. We have started this process under the leadership of the provost. In terms of the budget planning, the fact remains that once again our revenue assumptions closely mirrored what was included in the government's budget. I believe this is not only a testimonial to the staff involved but also tells us we were correct in our approach of moving ahead with our planning.

U of G Community Answers the Call for Budget Ideas

University has already taken action on many of the suggestions submitted

BY LORI BONA HUNT

THE U OF G COMMUNITY has answered the call from president Alastair Summerlee to come up with constructive ideas to save money or generate new revenue.

Nearly 300 suggestions were received from staff, faculty, students and alumni via e-mails, letters and phone calls. All the ideas were reviewed and considered by the vice-presidents, who are working with deans and directors to make base funding reductions and identify new ways of increasing revenue.

"The number of responses we received is very gratifying," says Summerlee. "It's evidence that the community has given this serious thought and taken on an active role in helping us find balanced ways of dealing with the University's financial challenges."

He invited the University community to make recommendations for achieving cost savings and for finding new sources of income earlier this year after announcing that Guelph was facing an estimated \$11-million budget shortfall in its 2005/2006 operating budget. A basebudget reduction of 4.5 per cent was made to all major units.

The University has already taken action on many of the suggestions, including expanding early retirement and buy-out options; encouraging staff and faculty, when possible, to explore flexible work schedules such as four-day weeks and days off without pay; and increasing fundraising efforts.

A number of people also offered ideas about raising funds to support U of G's operating budget or its greatest needs. To this end, Alumni Affairs and Development has developed a Cornerstone Fund that will enable the campus community to channel charitable donations directly into the operating budget. Individuals have also volunteered to help departments with fundraising ideas and projects.

Some of the cost-saving and revenue-generating ideas build on things the University already does, including offering more distance education and online learning opportunities, recruiting more international students, keeping administrative costs to a minimum and retrofitting buildings. Other suggestions the University plans to implement include reducing paper consumption by publishing more materials online and relying more on e-mail; selling surplus equipment and supplies; promoting materials and equipment exchanges; eliminating underused buildings; better controlling heat and cooling temperatures, lighting systems and electronic equipment; and improving water conservation and use.

Although the provincial government announced significant support for post-secondary education in the May 11 budget, the actual allocation of money to universities still has to be clarified, says Summerlee. It's expected that, over the next several months, the government will provide specifies on the distribution of monies to colleges and universities and confirm allocations of particular aspects of the increased investment announced.

At the moment, it appears that the assumptions in the University's budget were in line with the announcements in the Ontario budget, he says, but it's unlikely that the final budget will be known for U of G until the fall.

The president thanks members of the University community for responding so positively.

"Despite the grave concern that we all share, I am grateful to all those who have worked on implementing the budget for next year. We must now start to move forward on integrated planning for the University's future."

Sliding Into History

BY LORI BONA HUNT

ID YOU KNOW THAT U of G is home to one of the largest art collections in the world? You won't find it by looking in the galleries or studios on campus. Instead, head to the third floor of Zavitz Hall, walk down the long hallway and look for Room 318.

Open the door and you'll see rows of grey metal cabinets, a few light tables and some slide carousels. Keep in midd that appearances can be deceiving, that size doesn't matter and every other applicable cliché. These simple filing cabinets house the works of the greatest artists the world has ever known.

Welcome to the Gordon Couling Slide Collection, named for the founder of U of G's fine art program. The collection comprises more than 250,000 transparencies that record art production from today all the way back to the Stone Age. Each one is a little sliver of history.

Not only is the collection one of the largest around, but it's also among the most comprehensive, containing slides of works in every medium. Pull out one at random—an image of an ancient temple—and you'll see typed information all around the slide's edges, a mini history lesson of sorts.

Reading it, you learn that you're looking at the Temple of the Olympian Zeus located in Agrigentum, Sicily; that it was built after 480 BC but was never finished; that this image focuses on the temple's Doric capital (the top of one column) and that there were seven columns along the front of the temple and 14 on the flanks; and that the architecture included colossal male figures called atlantes that supported the roof.

The research and documentation are meticulous, something that slide librarian Michael Hall takes great pride in. He has overseen the collection for more than two decades and does most of the research himself.

"Hike to make sure we know as much as we can about a particular piece, so every single slide contains this type of detailed information," he says. "You either have to know all this stuff or go out and find it. The 'find it' part is what keeps me going after 20 years."

is what keeps me going after 20 years."

But the research is not the only meticulous component of Hall's job. Each individual transparency has to be ordered, then, once it arrives, cut out by hand and mounted in a white



Fine art slide librarian Michael Hall oversees a collection of more than 250,000 transparencies that record art production from today all the way back to the Stone Age.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

slide holder. "It's very labour-intensive," says Hall, a U of G

When he first started working at the University in 1981, the collection was used by only a handful of people.

"Once I became the librarian, I made sure it was opened up to more people. It's really a deep, rich collection, and I thought it was a travesty not to have it widely used."

Now the library is a frequent stop for faculty in and outside the College of Arts, and even for the occasional visiting researcher in search of a particular image. Students also come and go as they please, and can even check out slides and view them in a special room at all hours.

Hall tries to make finding exactly what you're looking for as simple as possible. It's not an easy task, given the number of slides and the fact that there can be hundreds of slides for one artist. For example, there are more than 1,000 slides of Picasso's works.

The collection is categorized according to a modified version of an art classification system developed by the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University. It's organized by country, and colour-coded labels indicate whether a slide is of a painting, a drawing, sculpture, a print, architecture or a work in another medium. Whenever possible, each slide also includes the artist's name, where the work is currently housed, the date of creation, the angle or section of the work that is highlighted and other pertinent information. If a work can't be categorized by country — images of Troy, for example — it's filed by culture.

"Of course, then there's the quick and easy way of finding something, the 'ask me where it is' system," Hall says with a laugh.

An avid art collector himself, he also dabbled in painting, photography and sculpture as a student.

"But I am really into art history, especially ancient art. It's what I love. In this job, I get to be around art all the time, get to do research and learn about art — that's the hest part."

Hall adds about 4,000 new images to the slide library each year. He bases his orders on the courses faculty are teaching, their research interests and his own knowledge of art and of what the collection needs.

to make sure you're current and that you have a wide cross-section of works and artists," he says.

The Power of a Simple Protein

U of G biophysicist finds energy-making pathway in higher life forms and possible links to how we tell night from day

BY ANDREW VOWLES

UNGI MAY BE HIGHER life forms than bacteria, but Prof. Leonid Brown, Physics, has learned that fungi aren't above borrowing a microbial trick for making energy.

Now he and other researchers believe they'll be able to trace that primitive energy-making pathway among other higher — albeit still relatively humble — life forms such as algae. And although the same kinds of proteins gave up their energy-making power long before they took on new light-sensing duties in the human eye, Brown believes his work with bacterial rhodopsins may help us understand how we and other animals tell night from day.

"What is exciting is using our knowledge of bacterial rhodopsins to get some new information about other organisms, not just bacteria, and to figure out new functions," he says. "I can apply our knowledge of this good old system to something new." For me, it's a really exciting time."

His work is described in an article published online in late April in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and in subsequent articles in Science Now and The Scientist.

Rhodopsins are a class of proteins with seemingly night-and-day roles in different organisms. In bacteria and related prokaryotes lacking a distinct nucleus, bacteriorhodopsin proteins run a pump that turns light into chemical energy. Leap to eukaryotes — including fungi, green plants and animals that get their energy from photosynthesis or respitation — and rhodopsins have been harnessed to work as light receptors of varying sophistication.

Brown's curiosity was piqued when he found a form of fungal rhodopsin that looked more like the bacterial protein than anything he'd seen in eukaryotes. When he isolated and tested the fungal protein — by shining light on artificial membranes containing the rhodopsin in his MacNaughton Building lab — he found its action also mimicked bacterial activity.

In bacteria exposed to light, the protein sparks a rapid and efficient turnover of protons that generates energy. In eukaryotes that use the protein for absorbing and sensing light, there's normally a slower proton turnover. Brown's research showed faster-than-expected turnover in the fungal protein, an evolutionary throwback as startling as hearing the clunk of a manual typewriter in a computer-equipped

Now he hopes to learn more about the protein, including why a microbial energy pump is still at work in an entirely different kingdom of living things. Brown suggests three possible reasons. The protein may provide an extra energy spurt to help kick the fungus out of dormancy (the particular fungus, Leptasphaeria maculans, is a parasite of canola). It may help create an acidic environment in parts of the cell to get rid of unwanted substances. Or it might be a new kind of fast-acting photosensor.

"Bacteria are very different from our ways of making energy," he says. "Our bioenergetic workings are extremely complex, involving dozens of proteins."

He's working with Australian collaborators who sequenced the fungal genome and who provided DNA for his studies. Prof. Janet Wood, Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB), and her research technician, Doreen Culham, helped him prepare the genetic material for study. His research team —master's students Stepben Waschuk and Lichi Shi and post-doc Arandi Bezerra —also had help from MCB professors Rod Merrill and Frances Sharom and chemistry professor Jacek Lipkowski.

Brown says an important next step is to demonstrate the workings of the rhodopsin in live fungi by manipulating the protein and the genetic material.

He's also interested in investigating how rhodopsins work in other organisms, from other fungi to algae to humans.

"Rhodopsins like bacterial rhodopsin might account for 15 per cent of the photosynthesis in ocean plankton. Fifteen per cent of ocean plankton is a lot in terms of energy

As in other animals, humans have rhodopsins, or light-sensitive pigments, in the retina that tell the brain when the eye has detected light. Apart from rod and cone rhodopsins that enable vision, Brown says melanopsin is believed to help maintain our body's circadian rhythms that mark night and day.

He began studying these proteins adout 15 years ago for his undergraduate degree at Moscow State University. After doing graduate work in Moscow, he was a researcher at the University of California, Irvine, before coming to Guelph in 2002.



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India Semester an Enriching Experience

Popular study-abroad program turns students into adults in a way that's not easily replicated back on campus, says committee chair

BY ANDREW VOWLES

om was right. Anita Khanna had been considering a couple of possible venues for an exchange program or semesterabroad recommended for her undergraduate degree in international development. It was her mother who persuaded her to pick Guelph's India semester. Not only would Khanna gain the cultural experience of visiting another country, but she'd also have a chance to revisit relatives in her parents' homeland.

"She made me realize it would be a pretty important trip," says Khanna, who was among the 25 students who participated in the India semester in winter 2003. Besides becoming reacquainted with members of her father's family in the northern city of Jaipur, she benefited in a way that even her mother might not have expected.

For Khanna, the three months spent with other Guelph undergraduates during that semester — and the subsequent five-week excursion she tacked on to the trip — might have been renamed "Confidence 101." From accepting train cancellations to coping with the theft of her luggage, she gained independence and learned to deal with the unexpected, lessons she brought back to Canada and even took with her last fall during, a subsequent research trip to India.

"I was a 'what-if' person prior to this," she says. That kind of maturing and personal growth is as central to students enrolled in the India semester as any of the cultural or historical stops or formal courses on the itinerary, says Prof. Terry Crowley, chair of the Department of History and this year's chair of the India Semester Committee. Crowley, who accompanied Khanna's group along with economics professor Clive Southey, long-time co-ordinator of the India semester, says the experience turns students into adults in a way that's not easily replicated back here on campus.

"They come away more intellectually mature," he says.

The India semester is billed as the most popular of U of G's study-abroad programs. Now in its 10th year, it received Senate approval this spring for a third five-year term.

Offered every second year, the program accepts 25 students in their third and fourthyears. Although students come from programs across campus, most are BA students. Like Khanna, nearly two out of three of those students are studying international development and three-quarters of them are female.

Six Guelph groups have travelled to India since the semester was launched in 1995 by political science professor O.P. Dwivedi, now University professor emeritus. The semester is run by the India Semester Committees, which includes faculty members, a student and a representative of the Centre for International

rograms

The India semester links Guelph faculty members with counterparts at institutions in the Asian country: the University of Rajasthan in Jaipur in Rajasthan province, and the University of Mysore and the Dvanyalokha Institute of Indian Studies in Karnataka province.

Students visit numerous sites in India, and their travels include a 37-hour train ride between Rajasthan province, which borders on Pakistan, and Karnataka, located in southwest India. The itinerary for winter 2006 will include a visit to a Turtle Bay fishing village, where students will collect data for a cost-benefit study on government plans for a tourist resort. Also on the agenda are stops at spice and coffee farms and a rehab centre for vagrant elephants, as well as visits to temples and museums.

Course modules include studies of gender, economics, Hindi, social and environmental issues, politics and public administration, philosophy, and Indian English literature. Courses are taught mostly by Indian instructors.

"It's not just a joyride," says Southey, whose wife, Janey, was previously a CUSO co-ordinator on campus and has helped with student counselling during the semester abroad.

Both 5outhey and Crowley point to a variety of factors that enrich the semester, from the country's size and complexity to its array of food and

language and even its varied and exotic smells.

Khanna says one of her favourite stops was a two-day stay in Varanasi in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh. Even having a bag stolen in the train station failed to quell her enthusiasm for the city. Among the sights and sounds that contributed to what she calls "an amazing experience" were the variety of activities along the Ganges River, including a series of riverside steps called ghats designated for everything from laundry and bathing to water buffalo to cremations.

Before taking part in the India semester in 2003, Crowley had visited the country as a fellow with the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute. The University belongs to the institute, formed in 1968 to link institutions in both countries.

Under the Shastri Applied Research Project, teams of Canadian and Indian researchers work together on projects intended to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable development in India.

For example, funding from the Shastri institute and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) allows Southey to work with researchers from Jawaharlal Nehru University on an environmental management project intended to restore the Yamuna River basin. Flowing roughly through the middle of the country, the Yamuna is perhaps the most degraded river in India.

In another Guelph project, Profs.

René Véron, Geography, Craig Johnson, Political Science, and Marta Rohatynskyj, Sociology and Anthropology, are helping to sustain rural livelihoods in India.

It was that project that lured Khanna back to India last fall under a CIDA-funded internship. She and three Guelph graduate students — Michael Bowles, Garry Fehr and Sophie Llewelyn — interviewed farmers in Madhya Pradesh province affected by globalization and by a local drought that had caused record damage to crops.

Khanna credits what she had learned of the country's politics, culture and language through the India semester for her ability to land last fall's research posting. Having graduated last spring, she's now applying her sustainable development interest back in Canada through a new job with the Residential Energy Efficiency Project in Kitchener.

The India semester is one of seven semester-abroad programs offered by U of G and one of two such programs the University runs in a developing country; the other is the Latin America semester in Guatemala. Besides these programs, Guelph provides more than 50 exchange programs with universities on five continents. The University also offers international opportunities for students through programs under the Commonwealth Universities Study-Abroad Consortium and through programs at agricultural faculties offered through OAC.

John Galt Goes Digital

U of G librarian develops digitized collection of writings by City of Guelph founder

BY REBECCA KENDALL

GUELPH'S FOUNDER, Scottish novelist and businessman John Galt, is the focus of a new digitization project at the University of Guelph that is being used for teaching Scottish literature, history and culture at Guelph and abroad.

Galt's writing particularly his novels, are of great interest to U of G librarian Tim Sauer, head of information resources (collections), who has developed a digitized collection of Galt's works to preserve and share with the world.

Sauer has spent 25 years researching Galt and says that, although business was Galt's first priority and passion, he was also a writer who produced everything from biographies, school readers and school spellers to plays, poetry and novels

Sauer says people might be surprised to learn that Galt shamelessly "recycled" his writing, often reusing entire chapters, passages and stories in other books.

"Part of that was because of his attitude toward literature," says Sauer. "He wanted to be a commercial success. He wanted to do well in business. His editor was constantly at him about editing and sharpening up the text and putting more into it, but Galt didn't have the time or the inclination, and that's what his books largely suffer from. If he'd taken more time to edit, they would have been superior books." Sauer's digitization project involves scanning pages from original Galt novels into his computer and then having the text painstakingly typed, so people can read it more easily. On the website where the project is stored (www.2.lib.uoguelph.ca/resources/ebooks/galt_list/index.cfm), an image of the original text and the typed version appear side by side.

"This is subject to my ability as a proofreader, and that's where the bulk of the work lies," says Sauer, who notes that, to date, the project consists of roughly 25,000 scanned, typed and proofread pages from a collection of 60 selected titles.

"Galt wrote in order to put bread on the table and did a huge amount of work," says 5auer, who believes the author's greatest literary strength was his ability to capture broad Scottish dialect.

In the beginning, Sauer's interest in looking at Galt's novels came from wanting to know a tilted more about Guelph's founder. In looking for books written by Galt, he discovered there wasn't a decent resource available and decided to produce a descriptive bibliography, a close physical description of the novels that includes information such as font type, kind of paper used, how images are incorporated and style of binding.

In the mid-1990s, he volunteered to digitize a couple of Galt's books for the University of Glasgow, which was embarking on a digitization project of its own. Since then, the project has grown into something that's being used to teach literature at Glasgow and right here at U of G.

Scottish studies chair Prof. Graeme Morton cites Sauer's work on the digitization project (and his strong involvement with extending the library's Scottish archival collection) as a big plus for Guelph's Scottish studies program.

"It's exciting to have all those materials sitting there," says Morton. "John Galt is one of those characters who is part of many areas of Scottish history because he's done so many things. He's a great character to study, and Tim's work has created accessibility to, and new teaching potential for, an important part of the collection we have here."

Morton says the digitization project translates into other disciplines, including language, literature and history, and that Galt's work gives people insight into 18th-century Scotland and the power dynamics that existed between different groups. He says there aren't many key Scottish literary figures, making the works of Galt that much more valuable in an academic sense.

"It brings a good profile to 5cottish studies here at U of G and in Canada. This project is something we're hoping to use to build and develop studies of 5cotland and to create a university hub. It's sort of our flagship project. It's superb."



Hearts and Minds

Award-winning OVC grad combines passions for health and environment

By Barry Gunn

OOKING BACK, Carin Wittnich never would have guessed that a degree in veterinary medicine wuuld lead to a career focused on human cardiovascular health. Nor could Wittnich, who, because of her veterinary background, has often felt like "sort of an oddball" among her medical colleagues, have predicted she would be considered a role model for future generations of vets. But she is.

Wittnich, a 1976 graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College, has been named the OVC Alumni Association's 2005 Distinguished Alumna. She will be feted at the association's annual general meeting June 25 during Alumni Weekend.

"I am very honoured," says Wittnich, a professor in the departments of surgery and physiology at the University of Toronto and director of U of T's cardiovascular sciences collaborative program. "I'm still somewhat speechless, which is quite something for me. This to me is very meaningful because it's coming from what I consider my own kind. I've always

wanted to be a vet; I've been very happy being a vet. I just use my skills in a somewhat different way."

Her professional enthusiasm for research and teaching has spilled over into her community involvement in promoting environmental awareness and women's and children's health, as well as innovative programs to help Alzheimer's patients and autistic children.

OVCAA president Ed Empringham says Wittnich "has exbelled academically and expanded the horizon for veterinary carreers through her work in human health sciences. In addition, she has contributed greatly to her community and her country through the Heart and Stroke Foundation and the Oceanographic Environmental Research Society."

Wittnich has published 66 research papers, more than 90 scientific abstracts and four chapters in books, has created five scientific research models and has won several prestigious awards for her work.

She has also created several new graduate and undergraduate courses at U of T. In 1991, she established the first cardiovascular sciences collaborative program in Canada, which led to her being named the inaugural Northrop Frye Scholar for her ability to combine science and education. She is also a member of the board of governors of the Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences.

Wittnich was awarded the Order of Ontario in 2001 and the



Queen's Jubilee Medal in 2002. These honours recognized the commitment and leadership she has shown through her work with the Heart and Stroke Foundation, where her research on gender differences and heart disease has made important contributions to the health of women and children.

Michael Belanger, president/director of the Oceanographic Environmental Research Society (OERS), which Wittnich helped found, describes her as "a veterinarian of extraordinary capabilities who has brought honour, admiration and recognition to the field of veterinary medicine and the University of Guelph through her efforts as a researcher and professor. She has increased the visibility and the role of veterinarians not only in Ontario but also throughout Canada."

And to think it might have all turned out much differently. Wittnich says she owes her diverse and fulfilling career to serendipity rather than careful planning. During her years at OVC, she had envisioned devoting her life to large-animal medicine. That was until knee surgery interfered with plans to work at the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal. She ended up working nights at an emergency vet clinic instead, and soon after became involved with a cardiovascular research team at McGill University. That led to a graduate degree in experimental surgery at McGill, followed by a position at U of T that she "would have been a fool to turn down."

"I was thinking all along I would like to have an academic career, but I thought it would be as a clinical surgeon, actually, at a vet college somewhere," she says. "I just went with my heart."

Surgery is still Wittnich's first love—a day in a surgical lab rejuvenates her, she says—and teaching keeps her in contact with young and inquiring minds. At U of T, she teaches a broad cross-section of students, from future doctors and dentists to technicians and those studying basic sciences.

She says she tries to encourage students to be open-minded, to take a broader view of science and to understand the importance of getting out of the ivory tower and seeing what's going on in the real world. That's where her passion for environmental issues comes in.

Wittnich recently collaborated on a project that surveyed 30 years worth of scientific literature on mercury levels in marine mammals. The group hopes to expand the study to include other sources of contamination and publish the data as a resource book.

She is also contributing to a new U.S. book on the manatee with a chapter on the

effects of pollution on that marine mammal, and hopes to set up a Canadian marine mammal rescue network to respond effectively to marine disasters.

Through the OERS, Wittnich has also shown that helping the environment can help humans in unexpected ways. She co-produced a video series called *The Southing Seas* that is being used in hospitals and extended-care facilities to provide a calming experience for patients, particularly those with Alzheimer's and action. The process began the three facilities to provide a calming experience for patients, particularly those with Alzheimer's became enthralled with footage she took while swimer's, became enthralled with footage she took while swim-

ming with manatees during a vacation in Florida.
"It was really amazing," she says. "It lowered the amount of medication needed to control his outbursts and provided him with a little bit of respite. It's not therapy, by any means, but it's turned out to be a helpful tool."

Wittnich says she has always felt fortunate to be an OVC grad. She took full advantage of all the college had to offer and put the experience to work in some surprising places.

"I think because of my vet background, I was trained to talk to clients about their animals because the animals can't do the talking. So you learn communication skills that become quite an asset when you're trying to share your information with the public. It's helpful for the public to understand in their language what we, the scientists, are trying to do and what we're finding and what the implications are."

Big Plans for a Big Shrub

OAC researchers examine viability of sea buckthorn plant as a crop in Ontario

BY ALICIA ROBERTS SPARK PROGRAM

T ENRICHES NUTRIENT LEVELS in soil. Its berries are rich in vitamin C and chock full of omega-3 fatty acids. And it's a great windbreak as well. U of G researchers want to know if Ontario is ready for the sea buckthorn shrub, lut they can't imagine why not.

Sea buckthorn, which grows on sandy shores in England, is native to northern Asia and Europe. But it's been grown as a windbreak in western Canada for many years. Prof. Adam Dale, Plant Agriculture, believes the plant's healthy berries and multiple planting options could make it a valuable commodity in Ontario, too. So he's leading a research team to look at the economic and practical aspects of sea buckthorn cultivation from field to market, to see if a homegrown industry can he established here.

"The plant can grow in rough areas where you'd expect nothing to succeed," says Dale. "It's a pioneer species for unsuitable areas, and it has incredible health benefits."

The woody and shrub-like sea buckthorn plant can grow up to 30 feet wide and produces yellow and orange berries the size of small cherries. And although the berries taste bland, they pack a powerful nutritional punch. Just one has 50 times the amount of vitamin C in an entire orange.

The berries also contain large quantities of palmitoleic acid, which encourages skin growth and could be useful to burn victims.

In addition, the pulp, seeds and leaves have many essential oils that are beneficial to people. Along with vitamin C, the berries have high levels of omega-3 oils and carotene, which helps with the conversion of nutrients to vitamin A and gives the berries their colour.

Like beans and sprouts, the sea buckthorn plant also contains nitro-

gen-fixing bacteria in its roots, which keep soil healthy. And because the plant produces many shoots and suckers to promote growth everywhere on the plant, the nutritional output is extremely high.

Dale notes, however, that the plant's herries don't appear until after three years of growth, something his team will take into account when looking at the economics of an Ontario sea buckthorn industry.

They've started a two-year pilot project, focusing on whether the plant can be grown viably in Ontario and what needs to be done to make it work. Specifically, Dale will look at economic aspects from planting to processing, as well as optimal plant varieties because some types are adapted for machine harvest whereas others must be hand-picked.

"The markets are there, and the processing facilities are available," he says. "We need to know if it can be priced reasonably to allow growers to make a profit."

Others involved in this research are Prof. David Sparling, Agricultural Economics and Business, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) research scientist Rong Cao. This work is funded by the Healing Arc in Kitchener and AAFC through the Agricultural Adaptation Council's CanAdapt Program.

OAC Students to Benefit From New Funding Initiatives

\$25-per-semester fee approved in referendum

BY ANDREW VOWLES

learning for undergraduates at Ontario Agricultural College and Guelph's regional campuses is the purpose of three funding initiatives introduced this year - a teaching trust, an undergraduate education fee and an enhanced class scholarship.

The new OAC Teaching Trust will be a \$10-million endowed fund for undergraduate education that is also intended to increase accessibility for students by exploring innovative course delivery methods in the

The money will support field labs, teaching labs and field trips, teaching materials and software, travel for course activities, skills training modules for OAC teaching co-ordinators and assistants, and course development. The trust's Innovation in Teaching Award will recognize excellence in teaching through traditional and new

The OAC dean's council, comprising the college's dean, chairs and directors and a student representative, will allocate the funds. The trust was launched during OAC Recogni-tion Night in late April. The college hopes to raise the entire \$10-million endowment by 2014.

"One of the things that make OAC distinctive is our strong emphasis on experiential learning," says OAC dean Craig Pearson. "Hands-on field and lab experience and international travel help our students develop the perspective and skills they'll need as tomorrow's leaders for the food and agriculture industries, for the environment and for rural communities.

In a referendum last semester, OAC students voted in favour of introducing a mandatory \$25-per-semester fee for undergraduate education, intended to pay mostly for lab and field courses.

Beginning in the summer semester, all undergraduate OAC students on the Guelph campus will pay the new fee, which will generate about \$30,000 per semester.

Following discussions with the Student Federation of OAC (SFOAC) and consultations among students and college administrators, about 75 per cent of students voted

The University will collect the fee for the student organization and

place it into a designated account for OAC. Each semester, SFOAC will dispense the money in consultation with the dean's council.

"We thought \$25 was a reasonable amount of money to ask students to contribute to their education," says SFOAC past president Heather Anderson, who stresses the importance of hands-on learning for OAC students. "We thought it would be a good way to show the dean's council and OAC that we do care about our education and want to maintain the quality."

Anderson says she hopes the new undergraduate fee and the new teaching trust will help offset funding constraints on post-secondary education, including the current tuition freeze imposed on Ontario universities.

"Not only do the students understand the issue and have worked hard to get it validated, but they have also taken on the responsibility of administering the money," says Prof. Mary Buhr, OAC associate dean (academic). She had suggested the idea of a semester levy to the student organization. "Despite the referendum passing right near the end of classes, they worked through the lines and have been extremely participatory, collaborative and forward-looking."

Says Pearson: "1 commend SFOAC for its leadership. The students' self-help is an inspiration for faculty in this challenging time."

In a third initiative, the Class of 2005 will adopt the OAC Class of 1905 Scholarship Fund, Since 1908, that endowment has provided an award to an outstanding sixth-semester student in the college.

This year's class, which numbers just over 100 students, gave \$300 to the fund this year. Through fundraisers, the graduates hope to give at least that amount in each of the next five years.

'We've been here for four years, and we want to give something back to the University," says Jonathan Zettler, president of the 2005 class.

The students settled on the idea during discussions with OAC advancement director Paulette Samson. It's hoped that, through the Class of 2005's support and other funding sources. OAC will eventually be able to increase the amount of the annual award from \$250 to \$1,000, she says.

LIZ PASK

PhD candidate in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences

Liz Pask's spare time goes to the dogs - literally. She trains dogs, including her own seven-yearold black Lab, Ripley. Ripley comes from a long line of working dogs, and Pask is training him in obedience. She has helped him complete his beginner's title, and they're now working towards a novice title.



Her training experience isn't limited to obedience; she also teaches dogs to dance. After being approached by an obedience instructor a few years ago, Pask started volunteering with a group that teaches dogs to square

"It's a dog-human partnership," she explains. "The dogs don't square dance by themselves, although that would be a neat trick."

Using eight pairs of partners (each pair consists of one person and a dog), the group has performed for the past two years at College Royal and has received a great response, she says. "I think we're getting better and better each time out."

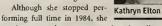
Pask also sits on the board of directors of Canine Helpers Incorporated, a Guelph-based service-dog organization that trains dogs to help people with psychiatric disorders, including post-traumatic stress disorder, manic depression and bipolar disorder.

"Working with dogs is like working with the best type of people," she says. "They look at your inside and not your outer appearance.'

KATHRYN ELTON

Manager of donor relations in Alumni Affairs and Development since 2003

Kathryn Elton says she is truly at home on stage. Once a full-time professional singer and actor, she spent seven years performing in theatres and supper clubs, including a six-month gig in Ber-"Some Eclectic Evenings."



continues to make appearances when time allows and says she occasionally spots U of G staff and alumni in the audience, some of whom are surprised to see her in

Elton sings and emcees at private functions and spe-

cial events and has taken part in benefits for organizations such as the Guelph Youth Music Centre and Hospice Wellington.

"I do these things because I am passionate about the causes," she says, adding that often one show leads to another. She is currently preparing to take to the River Run Centre's main stage June 5 at 2 p.m., where she will be the guest soloist for the Guelph Chamber Choir's "Songfest 2005: From Broadway to Gospel."

"I love what I do here at U of G, but singing is who I am," she says.

Elton also loves to travel with her husband, Peter Hohenadel, and their 14-year-old daughter, Annie. With a preference for big cities, they've been on trips to Amsterdam, London, Los Angeles, Vancouver and, most recently, Miami.

This summer, she plans to stick closer to home and will take part in an annual vacation with extended familv at Sauble Beach.

HARALD BAUDER

Faculty member in the Department of Geography since

Prof. Harald Bauder is a family man, and much of what he does involves his sons, Casseil, 31/2, and Phoenix, 11/2. Bauder says that one of his main challenges lately has been maintaining a routine for the boys, who have been adjusting to different time zones, environments and cultures.



Harald Bauder

The family has just returned from four months in Guatemala,

where Bauder was leading a U of G semester-abroad program. This week, they leave for Germany, where they'll spend the next three months. "I am German and my research is in Germany, so we go every summer," he

No matter what country he finds himself in, Bauder loves to take time to run, bike and swim. A former competitive fencer, he now does sport for fun and relaxation. "My job is competitive enough," he jokes.

One of the things he enjoys while in Germany is the world-class beer gardens. "The kids just congregate and the adults drink their beer and have dinner. People don't go there to drink; they go to socialize. If the weather co-operates, it's really a wonderful experience for the entire family."

He and his family will stay in the southern part of Germany, and Bauder says they'll take time to vacation and enjoy themselves in the mountainous terrain. "There are lots of public amenities like pools, so it'll be nice for the children."



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Prof. Anton Miglo holds cherished family photos that he brought to Canada from Russia. At right are his grandmother Marina with her mothet and grandmother. At left is Miglo with his paternal grandparents.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

We Must Learn From the Past

Economist says big part of Russian education, culture linked to wartime memories

BY REBECCA KENDALL

NE OF THE FIRST THINGS that economics professor Anton Miglo, who was born and raised in Russia, mentions about Canada is its willingness to take the best of all nations and bring them together in a mutually respectful way.

"Canada is a country that tries to absorb the best from around the world," he says. "That's why I love it."

That was part of the draw for Miglo, who completed a PhD in mathematical economics at Saint-Petersburg State University in 1997 and moved to Canada in 2000 with his wife, Djoulietta, and son, Victor, now seven, to work on a second PhD, this time in economics at the University of Quebec at Montreal.

In Russia, Miglo's research focused on the functioning of the securities market in conditions of transition economy, including hyperinflation, costly financial distress and bankruptcies. At the time, Russia's securities market was in its infancy and the country was in the process of making a shift from socialism to a market system.

At UQAM, he developed an interest in game theory and the theory of contracts and the "amazing" things that could be done when applying those principles to corporate finance.

Here at U of G, which he joined in 2004, his interest and research in game theory continue.

"It allows one to present many economic situations in the form of a game where the matter of solution is not necessarily a complicated mathematical calculation but rather the understanding of the strategies of each player and finding a better strategy for each player, which can sometimes be a pretty difficult logical task," he says.

It's this kind of brain exercise that intrigues Miglo, and it transfers into his personal life as well. He says this is partly because the Russian educational system puts a heavy emphasis on mathematics and reasoning as part of its curriculum. After the Russian Revolution in 1917, many things were done to separate science and religion, he says, and "anything that underlined logic, like the logical capabilities of people and the logical explanation of the world, was popular."

He says it's not surprising that games such as chess, checkers, Scrabble and Mastermind have long been popular among Russian people, because they're based in logic.

Miglo says another big part of Russian education and culture revolves around the atrocities suffered by Russians during war. He spends some of his spare time reading books about the Second World War out of respect for his nation and his family. "It's a very important part of life for us," he says.

The recent 60th anniversary of the end of the war is of particular significance to his family because his 80-year-old grandmother, Marina Maximovna Miglo, survived the war and the 900-day siege of Leningrad, while hundreds of thousands of others perished.

Marina was a teenager when Leningrad was blockaded by enemy forces. For three years, the city's residents had no food other than a ration of one piece of bread a day. Fuel stocks were extremely limited, and all public transportation stopped. By the first winter, there was no heating, no water supply and almost no electricity.

Families that had two or more children had the right to be evacuated to safer areas in the east, says Miglo, but Marina was an only child, so this wasn't possible for her and her parents. Less than 20 per cent of the population lived to see the blockade lifted in 1944.

He says survivors used many strategies to stay alive. In addition to carefully consuming their daily ration of 125 grams of bread, some people ate non-food items such as wood and plastic, Many also developed good relationships with soldiers who could help them, and people did what they could to keep their spirits intact.

"I think an important factor for survival was that people sincerely believed Russia was right in the war, and it gave them inner strength and prevented them from experiencing tarmoil; which wa a climate where no one ate normally for three years," he says

Russia celebrated Victory Day May 9, and although Miglo wasn't physically with his grandmother, he knows what it meant to her.

"It was a big day for her. She was definitely crying. There is no future if you don't learn from your past. We should all remember that."

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Political Science Student Receives Fulbright Fellowship

Continued from page 1

the Kyoto Protocol. The award was confirmed in late April.

"I'm honoured and humbled to be a Fulbright Fellow," he says. Referring to previous fellowship recipients such as Stephen Clarkson, a writer and University of Toronto professor, and Ontario Attorney General Michael Bryant, he says: "Those are big shoes to fill."

Hornsby will work with William Moomaw, a professor in international environmental policy at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and director of the Global Environment and Development Institute in Medford, Mass. Tufts will also afford Hornsby connections to trade and environmental experts at Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Boston University.

"It's an excellent opportunity to access people who will help me in achieving my research goals."

From NAFTA to the World Trade Organization, trade negotiations need to go beyond economics alone to consider environmental effects, he says. His thesis looks at the impact of the precautionary principle on Canada-U.S trade relations and how to use risk management to encourage sustainable trading

Hornsby studied political science at Guelph for his undergraduate degree before beginning his master's last fall with political science professors Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), and Melissa Gabler.

His interest in trade and environmental policies was sparked during an undergraduate class when he learned that international trade discussions paid scant attention to environmental effects. That hit home for a student who had grown up in Elora planting trees with his parents and taking birding expeditions with his grandparents.

"I remember being bowled over," says Hornsby, who went on to study the Kyoto Protocol and the WTO for his undergraduate honours thesis.

Earlier, he had considered becoming a scientist. In fact, he spent
two summers as a high school student working on the relaxin hormone in Summerlee's lab in the
Department of Biomedical Sciences.
Although Hornsby was intrigued by
the science and had a chance to
co-author several papers with his supervisor, he says he's drawn more to
politics — an interest that led him
naturally to student government.

"I'm deeply interested in people, how they act, what drives their decisions," says Hornsby, a self-described political junkie who became the youngest intern ever appointed to the Canadian Embassy program in Washington, D.C., in fall 2000. In 1999, he had been the youngest intern appointed to the office of Ontario's lieutenant-governor.

Among his political heroes, he

points to Lester Pearson, Nelson Mandela, Kofi Annan and Stephen Lewis. In a statement written for his Fulbright application, Hornsby wrote: "I am interested in pursuing a career in politics. I have a strong sense of responsibility and commitment to represent Canadians at home and abroad."

Among his numerous leadership positions in student government and University governance, he has served on the Central Student Association as academic commissioner and on the Graduate Students' Association as vice-president (external). He was a member of the Board of Governors in 2001/02. Since 2000, he has belonged to Senate, where he has chaired the Senate Committee on Awards and has served on the executive committee and the Board of Undergraduate Studies.

Among key contributions to U of G, he points to his membership on the Presidential Task Force on Accessibility to University Education.

"That will have a huge impact on the University," he says, pointing especially to recommendations contained in the task force report for increasing enrolment of first-generation students at Guelph. That and other recommendations were shared with the Nac advisory panel during the panel's recent review of post-secondary education. "A lot of our recommendations were adopted by the Rae panel."

Hornsby, 24, claims deep roots in the Guelph area and at the University. His grandmother, Norma Martin, completed a master's degree at the Ontario Agricultural College in the 1940s. His grandfather was a researcher at the Ontario Veterinary College before the couple went to the United States for PhD studies.

Hornsby's sister, Rachel, will begin her third year in human kinetics in the fall. "Science was very much part of the family," he says.

An uncle, Neil Hornsby, completed a degree in hotel and food administration.

This year, David Hornsby became a member of the board of directors of the Canadian Bureau for International Education, which promotes academic exchanges and international education policy.

Among his earlier awards, he received a \$17,500 grant this year from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. He also received a Latornell travel grant for work in Buenos Aires, a graduate entrance scholarship and the Walter Vaughan Medal for contributions to student life and Serate

Hornsby smiles as he recalls his parents' reaction to the news of his Fulbright award. "My mom started to cry. My dad immediately started to brag."

No word yet on what Summerlee will do for a squash partner. "David has started beating me now, so perhaps it is time for him to go."



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore, to be held in June. Anyone who submits the right answer by May 20 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendatl@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. \$65B2. The only person to correctly report that the May 4 photo was of a pigeon spike at the front of the MacLachlan Building was John Van Manen of Physical Resources.

U of G Continues Budget Plans

Continued from page 1

funds to universities, and to U of G in particular, is known, he says. In addition, a significant portion of the new funds announced in the budget are targeted, meaning that, in order to access the money, U of G would have to invest in new programs that would qualify for support.

Summerlee says this confirms Guelph's earlier decision to move forward with its budget planning, and the University will continue with the plans laid out in the operating budget approved by Board of Governors in April.

Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), says the reallocation of resources as outlined in U of G's budget will be difficult.

"Deciding among priorities is a

constant challenge," she says. "The government's commitment to multi-year funding and new multi-year public accountability requirements are consistent with our need to undertake integrated planning."

Summerlee acknowledges concerns about the impact of budget cutbacks, but says a significant number of faculty and staff have opted for voluntary early retirement, so the number of redundancies is fewer than expected. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

He adds that it's a challenge to deal with budget reallocations while continuing with programs to modernize campus facilities.

"I realize that it's sometimes difficult to understand the need to deal with cutbacks so we can balance the operating budget when we continue to build and renovate, undertake energy retrofits and carry out deferred maintenance."

In keeping with standard practice, U of G's budget will be reviewed again once the University receives confirmation of its final operating budget and its enrolment numbers.

Energy Tip

Screen savers are not power savers. If you have an energy-saving mode on your monitor, make sure it is enabled, or better yet, turn off your monitor whenever you're not at your computer.



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Garage sale in support of the Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington May 21 starting at 8 a.m. (rain date May 22), 146 Metcalfe St. If you'd like to donate items for the sale, call 829-3639.

Olfa cutting mat for sewing, scrapbook and craft projects, etc., selfhealing, can be used with rotary cutter, approximately four by five feet, excellent condition, Valerie, 740-0344.

Thule roof rack with attachments for three bikes, two new 205/60 R15 Harmony Michelin tires, Ext. 52079, 836-1836 evenings or mgrebenc@ uoguelph.ca.

Flower girl dress: light ivory, layered back detailing, size 8/10, with custom-made crinoline, matching purse and hair accessory, perfect condition; Kelvinator 30-inch stove, bisque colour, good working condition, 837-3809.

Limited-edition unframed Laura Berry prints: Garden Shed, Time Out, Autumn Adventures; Gibbard cherry drop-leaf oval coffee table, 48" by 20" by 16", excellent condition, 822–3129.

Ikea pine single loft bed, matching desk and dresser, great for small rooms, Carrie, Ext. 52305.

2002 Sunfire SL Coupe, two-door, five-speed, silver tinted windows, second set of winter tires, one owner, highway driven, 104,000 kilometres, 826-7400.

Men's 12-speed bicycle with back carrier and fenders; Singer 247 sewing machine with cabinet, good working condition; Telefunken Isophon-type and Concerto twoway eight-ohm speakers, Ext. 53561 or 821-5412 evenings or weekends.

Various perennials; large square coffee table, contemporary style; garden accents, toadstools made from hypertufa material, 821-1879.

Complete windsurfer, older model perfect for beginner or mellow surfer, reasonable shape; windsurfer board only, Julie, Ext. 54861 or 824-3812.

Crate Designs furniture: sleigh bed with extra storage, mattress and box spring; night table; chest of drawers; office desk with hutch and shelving space, mint condition, 763-9201 or kmena@uoguelph.ca.

Sheers, roller hlinds, vertical blinds, sofa, loveseat, table and four chairs, refrigerator, clock radio, black and white and colour TVs, two-piece luggage, dishes, 822-0786.

Air conditioner, 8,250 BTU, will cool 350 square feet, excellent condi-

tion; Casio keyboard with stand and AC adaptor, good condition, 824-0962.

Panasonic PV-GS15 video camera, one-year warranty, ysavoret@ uoguelph.ca.

FOR RENT

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in house, close to shopping and bus stop, mature grad student or professional preferred, \$600 a month inclusive, Janet, 821-0177.

Furnished bedroom in basement, separate entrance, kitchen, bath, parking, close to campus, non-smoker, no pets, suitable for professional or mature student, first and last months' rent, available now, \$525 a month inclusive, 763-1568.

Three-bedroom century stone house in downtown Guelph, main-floor laundry, renovated kitchen and bath, parking, on bus route, suitable for family or three adults, faculty, staff or female grad students preferred, non-smokers, no pets, available Sept. 1 to June 30, 2006, rent negotiable, Susan, Ext. 53003.

Two-bedroom cottage with view of Lake Huron, suitable for four, non-smokers, all amenities included, available—for—July,—763-1236—or-lrbardwell@sympatico.ca.

Family cottage at Crystal Beach in Niagara Falls area, accommodation for six, close to Fort Erie, the Falls and Marineland, \$650 a week, weekend rates available, Bob, Ext. 56071 or bobinguelph@rogers.com.

Three-bedroom single-family home, close to campus, shopping mall and bus stop, parking, laundry, suitable for sabbatical faculty or three university students, available immediately, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, \$22-6765 or gloriaz_ca@yahoo.com.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, shortterm rental; furnished two- bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, available weekly or monthly, Nicole, 836-6745 or fnmoll@hotmail.com.

Upper three rooms of luxury townhouse backing on to river and trails, two baths, share furnished kitchen/ living room with owner, dishwasher, laundry, AC, indoor parking, suitable for professional or grad student,

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available Sept. 1, \$800 a month plus utilities, 820-5237 or chleslie@ uoguelph.ca.

WANTED

Professor and family from the University of Montreal seeking three- or four-bedroom house for sabbatical for 12-month lease starting July 1, Ludovic, Ext. 54039 or annemarie.monette@cgocable.ca.

Quiet, responsible graduate, working full time, looking for place to live for July 1, willing to share with students or will take care of home while owner on sabbatical, 905-734-1341 or rlemme@uoguelph.ca.

Used canoe paddles, any condition, Jesse, Ext. 52403 or jstewa06@ uoguelph.ca.

AVAILABLE

Experienced house cleaner, references supplied, Lisa, 763-4506.

Memberships in Ignatius Organic Farm CSA for 2005 growing season, 824-1250, Ext. 245.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, Cobi, 836-8086 or cdemmers@uoguelph.ca.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Two-bedroom one-storey house close to downtown, perfect for professional or visiting professor. Secluded location, backing on to forest. Parking for two cars. Available Sept. 1. \$1,100 a month includes utilities and laundry.

Call Mark at 519-829-2858

At Guelph will publish only two more issues before the summer. They will appear June 1 and 15. The deadlines to submit items for those issues are May 24 and June 7.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

"Plant Propagation" is the focus of horticulturist Sean Fox June 7. Two sessions are being offered — from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$40. Registration and payment are due May 24. On June 21 from 7 to 9 p.m., Fox will talk about trees and lead a walk through the Arboretum's World of Trees collection. Cost is \$20. Register by June 7 at Ext. 52358.

Naturalist Chris Earley is offering a watercolour course for beginners June 10 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$25. The deadline for registration and payment is May 27. Earley will also lead a session on "Sketching Nature" June 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$20. Register by June 3.

LECTURE

Prof. Dan Thomas, Chemistry, discusses "The Challenges and Opportunities for the Bachelor of Science in the Next Five Years" May 26 at 9 a.m. in OVC 1715.

NOTICES

Volunteers are needed for the Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion event to be held on campus June 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers are sought for a variety of tasks throughout the day, including setting up and tearing down and helping out at the barbecue. If you're interested, contact Mitzi Hepburn at mhepburn@ uoguelph.ca or leave a message at Ext. 56416.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering a better sleep program beginning May 24 at 6:30 p.m. in UC 335. For more information, pick up a pamphlet at the Info Desk on UC Level 1, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute invites applications for its 2005/06 International Youth Internship Program for recent university or college graduates interested in international work. The six-month internships begin in September. Application deadline is June 1. For details, visit www.sici.org/2004shastri/english/youthinternship.htm.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Instructors who want to use WebCT this fall but are unfamiliar with the program can learn the basics over the summer through a Teaching Support Services workshop called "Hands-on for First-Time Users." It will be offered May 24, June 16 and July 5 and 28. To register for a session, visit www.tss.ttoguelph.ca/registration/index.cfm. For information, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Shannon Costigan, Integrative Biology, is May 25 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "The Effect of Thermal Acclimation on Aspects of Cholesterol Metabolism in the Liver and Gill of the Rainbow Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss)." The adviser is Prof. Jim Ballantyne.

The final examination of PhD candidate Reynold Bergen, Animal and Poultry Science, is May 26 at 9 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "Genetic Improvement of Steer Carcass Composition and Fat Partitioning Using Yearling Bull Measurements." The adviser is Prof. Stephen Miller.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Food and Friends June House Tour, a showcase of Guelph and area bomes, runs June 5 from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, call 856-0875 or send e-mail to junchousetour@gto.net. The Guelph Food Bank will hold a garage sale and silent auction May 27 and 28 at 100 Crimea St.

U of G geography graduate Michael Gordon presents a slide show on Ontario caves May 19 at 7 p.m. at The Bookshelf. Admission is free.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph's fourth annual Ultimate Golf Classic is June 20 at Wildwinds Golf Club in Rockwood. The deadline to register is June 15. For information, call 824-5154 or visit the website www. bigbrothersbigsisters.guelph.org.

The Guelph Little Theatre production of *The Edible Woman* by Dave Carley opens May 26 at 8 p.m. and runs weekends until June 11. For tickets, call 821-0270.

The Wellington County branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets May 24 at 7:30 p.m. at 125 Harris St. Prof. Kevin James, History, will discuss U of G's 1891 census project.

Cox Creek Cellars Estate Winery is hosting a fundraising Lobster Fest in support of Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis June 5 from 1 to 5 p.m. For tickets, call 767-3253. The Guelph Chamber Choir presents "Songfest 2005: From Broadway to Gospel" June 5 at 2 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Call 763-3000 for tickets.

Past and present members and friends of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) are invited to CFUW/Guelph's 60thanniversary celebration May 24 at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. For tickets, call Joan Goddard at 821-0747.

Bioenterprise is offering an interactive workshop on "Communicating Your Products' Unique Value" June 9 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Ramada Hotel. For more information, call 821-2960 or send e-mail to tiffany.king@bioenterprise.ca.

Boxer Rescue Ontario is hosting its second annual Rescue Me Walk-athon June 11 in Toronto. The walk begins at 11 a.m. at Rowntree Mills Park. For information, visit www. rescuemewalk.com.

"Puttin' on the Ritz," a women's barbershop quartet and chorus competition, runs May 27 to 29 in War Memorial Hall. The quartet contest is Friday at 8 p.m., and the chorus contest begins Saturday at 12:30 p.m.

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